

Evangelism Meet Set For Feb. 4-6



Dr. John Havlik



Dr. Franklin Paschall

Bob Jones, Americans United Challenge IRS

By Stan L. Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — Americans United for the Separation of Church and State and Bob Jones University presented oral arguments before the U. S. Supreme Court challenging the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) action in revoking their tax exemption.

Because the tax exempt status question is at the heart of both cases, the Justice Department had earlier suggested to the court that the cases be heard together or in close succession.

Glenn Archer is executive director of Americans United, a Washington-based group which deals exclusively with religious liberty and separation of church and state. Bob Jones III is president of the Greenville, S. C., university, an independent, non-denominational school.

In the Americans United case, the IRS argued that a federal district court has no jurisdiction to hear the case against the government over the 1969 revocation of Americans United's tax exempt status until the organization exhausts its legal efforts in the tax courts.

In revoking the group's exemption, the IRS charged Americans United with engaging in "substantial" and excessive lobbying activities.

When Americans United first brought suit in March, 1971, the U. S. District Court in Washington, D. C., agreed with the IRS position. In January, 1973 the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia reversed the lower court's decision, thus setting the stage for the Supreme Court test.

Americans United's principal argument before the high court was that small religious organizations are being discriminated against, as opposed to larger and more powerful ones such as the Roman Catholic Church, over the question of tax exemption.

In addition, Americans United insisted that it is being penalized for activities protected by First Amendment rights and that it has lost badly needed financial support.

Americans United was represented before the court by Washington Attorneys Alan B. Morrison and Franklin C. Salisbury. Regardless of the

court's decision, Americans United is headed for further legal action, as its present case deals with court jurisdiction as opposed to a final determination of its tax exempt status.

In contrast, the Bob Jones University case is to be decided on its own merits. The university's tax exempt status was revoked in 1970 because of the school's policy of denying admission to black students solely on racial grounds.

Suit was brought in federal district court challenging the IRS action, resulting in a preliminary injunction against the government. The U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth District then reversed the lower court's ruling. J. D. Todd Jr., attorney for the university, argued that the IRS is not qualified to act impartially when its own regulations are under attack.

Furthermore, the university insists that the IRS action is actually an attack upon a selected religious group. Although its racial policy is not popular, the school maintains that it is based on religious conviction and falls under First Amendment protection.

Decisions in both cases are expected sometime before the end of the court's current term in June, 1974. —Stan L. Haste is assistant to the Washington bureau chief of Baptist Press and assistant to the director of information services for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The annual Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference will be held at the First Baptist Church in Vicksburg Feb. 4-6, according to Rev. Roy Collum, secretary of evangelism of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, who will direct the meeting.

Over 1200 Mississippi Baptist pastors and other local church and associational leaders from every section of the state are expected to attend, Mr. Collum said.

The conference will open with the Monday evening session at 6:45 and adjourn at the close of the Wednesday morning session.

Dr. Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, (Continued on page 2)



Dr. Jesse Northcutt

ports,
Call's Special Meeting

RICHMOND (BP) — During its first meeting of 1974, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board heard optimistic reports about foreign mission advances in 1973, and approved a recommendation that board members attend a special full meeting of the board in February.

In the special meeting February 11-12, the board will consider the recently released report of the "Committee of 15" to the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, which includes several recommendations concerning the work of Southern Baptist agencies, including the Foreign Mission Board.

"The report is highly significant from the standpoint of foreign missions," said Baker J. Cauthen, the e

board's executive secretary. "Because of the importance of this meeting, it is our hope that all board members will be much in prayer between now and the February meeting and may come prepared to give their best counsel as to the course of action for the future," Cauthen said.

Louis Cobbs, secretary for missionary personnel, pointed out in his report to the board that during 1973 the number of missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Mission Board.

This includes 229 new missionaries that were appointed during 1973.

"The statistical report for 1973, as encouraging as it is, tells only a part of the story," said Cobbs.

"The work of the personnel department staff and the committee on missionary personnel brings us into relationship with persons who are struggling with life's ultimate decisions."

Cobbs said that during the year members of the personnel department staff talked with more than 500 new people about missionary service and conducted 1,133 personal interviews with missionary candidates.

The board also heard reports of the financial advances made during 1973.

Cauthen indicated that reports concerning the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering are more encouraging than we have ever known."

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an expression of the deep desire of Baptist people to do more in making known the love of Christ throughout the world than we have ever done in our history," Cauthen said.

"Christian forces will fail in a time of greatest responsibility if in the re-

(Continued from page 3)

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Top Ten News Stories For '73 Told In Baptist Press Poll

NASHVILLE (BP) — Controversy in the Missouri Baptist Convention, centering around alleged mismanagement of funds and convention affairs, was voted the top Southern Baptist news of 1973, according to a poll released here.

The poll was conducted by Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, among 33 state Baptist newspapers and eight Baptist Press bureaus and national office personnel.

Based on a system of awarding 10 points for every first place vote down through one point for a 10th place vote, the Missouri situation collected 193 points on 27 ballots returned, finishing ahead of a continuing debate on orthodoxy, which received 161 points.

Reports of burgeoning Southern Baptist Convention statistics, which passed several milestones in 1973, finished third with 185 points; church state developments involving such issues as public school prayer and parochial was fourth with 129 votes, and increased efforts of women to seek new ministerial roles in Southern Baptist life finished with 125 votes to round out the top five.

A series of stories reporting advances in black-white relations in 1973 in Southern Baptist circles edged Baptist response to the Watergate scandal, 120-119, in balloting for the sixth and seventh slots in the top 10.

After the seventh position, point totals dropped off heavily. Stories reporting expansion by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in the face of critical problems brought on by dollar devaluation received 70 points for an eighth place listing, while problems for Christian missions, surfaced by the takeover of Wounded Knee by American Indian Movement (AIM) militants, ranked ninth with 57 points.

Baptist response with funds and manpower to worldwide disasters, including Nicaragua, Mexico and Spain, finished in a tenth place tie, 54-54, with stories reporting refusal for the second consecutive year by the SBC annual session to abolish the convention's Stewardship Commission and place its functions under the SBC Executive Committee.

Four news developments are lumped in a four-way tie, with 47 points apiece, only seven points out of tenth place.

They are stories reporting reorientation problems and spiritual encounters of Vietnam Prisoners of War; dramatic evangelism results in Korea, including reported mass decisions for Christ; response to the energy crisis; and response to the abortion issue, including Baptist Press exclusive interviews with the plaintiff in a landmark abortion case (Continued On Page 3)

NASHVILLE (BP) — Giving through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget during the 1973-74 fiscal year is running 10.85 per cent ahead of the first quarter of the record-setting 1972-73 fiscal year.

Southern Baptists gave \$8,874,306, October through December, as compared with \$8,005,405 in the first quarter of last year, according to figures released by John Williams, director of financial planning and assistant to the treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

In December alone, Cooperative Program contributions amounted to \$3,065,660 — the third time in 1973 the figure exceeded \$3 million. Cooperative Program totals had never reached the \$3 million mark in previous years.

December's increase, however, was running only \$97,523 — or 3.2 per cent — ahead of the \$2,968,137 contributed in December, 1972.

Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, expressed gratitude for the continuing response of Southern Baptists to worldwide mission needs and noted that the \$3,065,660 "will help a great deal toward the \$35,000,000 goal for the 1973-74 fiscal year."

Designated giving through Southern Baptist churches during the first quarter of 1973-74 totaled \$901,069. That's 9.67 per cent ahead of \$893,694 given at the same point in 1972-73. In December, designated giving amounted to \$338,570 — more than 32.2 per cent above the \$293,883 designated in December, 1972.

Total gifts to world missions, including the Cooperative Program and designated contributions, showed increases for both the month and the quarter.

December's total of \$3,454,230 exceeded the previous December total by \$192,209 — 5.89 per cent — and first quarter gifts of \$9,865,374 ran 10.73 per cent ahead of \$8,909,104 given in the first quarter of 1972-73.

SBC Committee Asks Revamp Of Strategy

By W. C. Fields

Director, Baptist Press

(Second of Four Articles)

NASHVILLE (BP) — A major study to be considered by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention in February calls for revision in agency work to increase the denomination's missionary effectiveness in the USA and overseas.

The Committee of Fifteen, which has been at work since February, 1970, evaluating the denomination's national agencies, says in its report

just released, "We believe that the time has come for bold new strategies in home and foreign missions."

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board currently has work in 77 countries and the Home Mission Board in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and Panama. Budgets for the two boards total \$55 million, and they have 4,700 missionaries.

The report will recommend to the SBC Executive Committee here February 18-20 that a comprehensive two-year depth study be made of Southern Baptist home and foreign mission strategy.

Members of the Committee of Fifteen, an Executive Committee subcommittee, indicate that this is one of the most important of the 22 recommendations included in their report. E. W. Price Jr., High Point, N. C., is the committee chairman.

Twenty-eight of the 97 "areas of concern" cited in the report deal with the two mission boards, the Brotherhood Commission, which develops missionary study and participation among Baptist men and boys, and Woman's-Missionary Union (WMU), which fosters missionary study and work among Baptist women and girls.

The "areas of concern" specified in the report will be referred to the trustees of the appropriate agencies for their consideration. The agencies are asked to report back to the SBC Executive Committee by February, 1975, on their disposition of these matters.

The study committee expressed disappointment over the decline in circulation of missionary magazines published by the four missionary agencies. Agency personnel are asked to review their missionary information services and try to reverse this trend.

The four missionary agencies are also requested to consider, with the Baptist Sunday School Board, the possibility of restoring missionary materials to Sunday School and Church Training curriculum periodicals.

The report calls attention to the need for enrollment upturns in the missionary organizations sponsored by Woman's-Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission.

WMU enrollment reached a peak of 1.5 million in 1962 and has dropped almost a third in 10 years. Between 1958 and 1972, Brotherhood men's enrollment declined 41 per cent at a time when church membership increased 28 per cent.

These two leaders are Clayton Gilbert and W. J. Isbell.

The schedule of meetings, including the inspirational speaker, follows:

Jan. 21 — First Baptist Church,

founded in 1845, to give greater promotion to the Cooperative Program, the SBC unified budget. In the 1973-74 SBC operating budget of \$34 million, 51.14 per cent of the Cooperative Program funds will go for foreign missions and 18.31 for home missions.

(Continued On Page 2)

State Baptists Go 'Over The Top' In '73 Cooperative Gifts

Cooperative Program receipts of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for 1973 totaled \$5,250,110, exceeding the budget goal of \$5,200,000 by \$50,110.

Dr. Earl Kelly, Jackson, executive secretary-treasurer of the board, said that the \$5,250,110, given by the churches of the state convention, was a gain of \$626,121, or 13.5 per cent over the \$4,623,989 given in 1972.

The Cooperative Program is the principal channel of mission giving of the denomination and accounts for about two-thirds of the total mission contributions.

The total Cooperative Program budget goal for 1974 is \$5,500,000, Dr. Kelly added.

Series Mission Action Institutes Ready

A series of six regional Baptist Mission Action Institutes will be held over the state Jan. 21-31.

Rev. E. L. Howell, director of the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sponsor, said that "the institutes are designed for the local churches in that those attending will learn how to analyze their own community with a view to discovering the many needs that would require basic mission actions on the part of its membership."

The program for each of the institutes, to be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m., will feature a well-known Mississippi pastor as inspirational speaker and two associates from the Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis who will serve as conference leaders at every meeting.

These two leaders are Clayton Gilbert and W. J. Isbell.

The schedule of meetings, including the inspirational speaker, follows:

Jan. 21 — First Baptist Church,



Rev. Jackie Hamilton



W. J. Isbell



Dr. Harold Bryson

Batesville, Dr. John Lee Taylor, pastor First Baptist Church, Grenada; Jan. 22 — Pearson Church, Pearl, Rev. Jackie Hamilton, pastor Highland Baptist Church, Meridian; Jan. (Continued On Page 3)

Mid-South Bus Outreach Clinic Set For Jackson

A Mid-South Baptist Bus Outreach Clinic will be held at the Parkway Baptist Church in Jackson Jan. 24-27. Rev. Bryant M. Cummings, director of the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said that church staff members, Sunday school and bus team workers and others interested in bus outreach from Mississippi and several surrounding states would attend.

An outstanding group of twelve leaders in the church bus ministry, mostly from out-of-state, will be present to speak on various aspects of bus outreach.

Conference subjects and leaders will be as follows:

Children's Sunday School Workers, Miss Elsie Rives, consultant, Chil-

(Continued On Page 2)

SBC Committee Asks Revamp Of Strategy

(Continued From Page 1)

The committee expressed gratitude for the money raised each year for missions by Woman's Missionary Union. Since its establishment in 1888, WMU has been a major source of financial support for both boards. The annual WMU Annie Armstrong Easter Offerings for home missions have totaled \$71,064,000. The annual WMU Lottie Moon Christmas Offerings for foreign missions have totaled \$237,464,000.

The report cautions the two mission boards about unessential growth of home office staff. The Foreign Mission Board staff has increased from 107 in 1960 to 232 in 1972, a gain of 126 per cent. This compares to a 95 per cent increase in missionaries to a total of about 2500.

The committee suggests to the board, "Conduct a careful study of the home staff with the view to streamlining whenever possible."

The Home Mission Board home office force has increased from 76 in 1960 to 207 in 1972. The committee cautions against overlapping functions and duplicating offices and reminds the board's trustees and administration that administrative costs should require a small fraction of mission resources.

Evangelism is cited as one of the areas of concern by the Committee of Fifteen. The committee's report calls on the Home Mission Board, which has the denomination's primary evangelism assignment in the USA, to strive to correlate this work more effectively with other agencies in literature, student and lay evangelism and in the use of television.

The report adds, "The Study Committee does not believe the creation of a separate commission on evangelism at this time is the answer." Five reasons for this position are given.

1. The entire Home Mission Board is basically a board of evangelism;
2. During the past few years evangelism has done well under the board's leadership, reaching an all-time high of 452,000 baptisms in 1972;
3. "There seems to be excellent cooperation between the Home Mission Board and the state departments of evangelism;
4. "While a few people have advocated a separate organization, the idea does not seem to have gathered widespread support;
5. "The expectation of saving

money by creating a separate organization does not seem to be well founded."

Special heed is asked of the fact that Southern Baptists are not organizing churches as rapidly as in years past. The committee pointed to a new gain of 906 churches in the four-year period, 1969-72, but only a net gain of 198 churches for 1969-72. Total churches now number 34,500.

The committee report asks the Home Mission Board's trustees and administration to consider a higher priority for church extension, with a special emphasis in 1976-79, concentrating on heavily populated unchurched areas, and giving full consideration to the needs of inner cities.

The Home Mission Board is asked to give new attention to strengthening the work of the district Baptist association.

Lay renewal efforts by the Home Mission Board are encouraged by the committee, with cautions expressed against dislocating local church activities, diverting tithes and offerings from the churches and against unwise emotional extremism.

The Brotherhood Commission is re-

quested by the committee to clarify the purposes of Brotherhood work in the churches and re-evaluate tasks it asks men in the churches to assume.

The report notes with gratitude the increase from 1,283 missionaries in 38 countries in 1958 to 2,507 missionaries in 76 countries (now 77) in 1972. "Yet it may be possible," the report notes, "for our missionary force to become too thinly scattered. It may be also possible that proportionately we can have more missionaries than we can provide program support."

The committee report asks the Foreign Mission Board likewise to strive to reduce the number of resignations among career missionaries. It cites 196 resignations (8.63 per cent) in 1962-63 compared to 398 (14.78 per cent) in 1967-72.

Communications skills for missionaries are underscored by the committee, including the proper utilization of radio and television in close coordination with the witnessing efforts of local congregations.

The Brotherhood Commission is re-

Mission Action Institutes

(Continued From Page 1)

Church, Long Beach; Jan. 29—First Church, Biloxi, Dr. DeBord; Jan. 31—Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, Dr. Taylor.

Mr. Howell said that all persons involved in any mission leadership in

any department of a local Baptist church are urged to attend the institute most convenient.

He added that the institutes were also designed for associational leadership as they may want to provide such an institute in their own associations.



Dr. Gail DeBord



Clayton Gilbert



Dr. John Lee Taylor

N.O. Seminary Inaugurates Project In Florida

New Orleans Baptist Seminary has initiated an academic experiment over 600 miles away in the Baptist Building in Tampa, Fla., site of the school's new Doctor of Ministry Project. In announcing the landmark program, Dr. J. Harder Kennedy, academic dean, said: "We are pioneering. We are attempting to make the (D. Min.) program available to many students in the mid-Florida area who cannot come to the seminary for resident study."

A seminar in the Tampa Bay location is scheduled to begin Jan. 14. Dr. V. L. Stanfield and Dr. Wilbur Swartz, professors at the seminary, will fly to Tampa to conduct the seminar in pastoral ministries, which will meet for four hours every other Monday. It will "effect the equivalency of a full semester's seminar, in work and in credits," according to Dr. Kennedy.

News Briefs

DALLAS (BP)—Harold G. Hanson has been elected secretary of the church training department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Hanson succeeds R. Clyde Hall, who resigned in June to enter private business. He is a former associate in the Texas Baptist Sunday School division and has served for the past six years as minister of education at First Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex.

FORT WORTH—If it's not one award at the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, it's another. Staffers here learned today that two more Commission films have won awards—this time Chris Bronze Plaques in the 21st annual Columbus (Ohio) International Film Festival. The films, both part of the Commission's "Human Dimension" series for television, are "Fellow Citizen, A. Lincoln" and "Cathedrals." The films competed with more than 800 entries in the festival.

NALERIGU, Ghana—Aware of suffering and death in his village, a young Ghanaian once expressed hope that someday there would be a doctor in the area. Today, not only is there a Baptist hospital near his birthplace, but this "young" Ghanaian, Dr. Edward Mahama, serves there as a staff physician. The first Ghanaian Baptist doctor to practice at Baptist Medical Center here, Dr. Mahama brings to the hospital a unique blend of Christian compassion, medical knowledge and an experiential understanding of the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people of Ghana. During his primary school years Mahama worked part time as interpreter for Dr. George M. Faile Jr., missionary founder of the Baptist Medical Center. As a result of the witness of Dr. Faile, Mahama became a Christian and set goals to become a Christian doctor.

AJLOUN, Jordan—Results of an examination administered by Jordan's Ministry of Education show that students at a Baptist girls' school here are receiving a quality education. The Ministry of Education, in its annual report, says that 95 per cent of the students in the school, which is administered by the Jordanian Baptist Association, have passed the ninth grade. One is given at the end of preparatory school (ninth grade). If a student does not pass the test, he can either repeat the ninth grade or continue to tenth grade, but must enter a trade school. In 1973, the Ajloun Baptist Girls' School had only one failure among graduates taking the test. She is repeating a year of school and all other graduates have either found jobs or are entering universities. All ninth graders passed their exam.

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The Convention President Speaks

Word that has come to me is that churches have responded well to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, but it doesn't seem that we any more than get through with one emphasis until another is upon us.

Here, at Broadmoor, we have just closed our appeal for foreign missions and are now launching our program for the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions. Most of you will agree with me that this is the way it ought to be. We should never get through promoting the work of our Lord and really the only reason we divide our work in terms of foreign, home, etc., is for convenience. It is all His work.

I do want to encourage all of our people to be much in prayer and plan to give sacrificially for home missions. For many years, we have had some pioneer missions in our budget and it has proved to be a blessing to this pastor. The need is urgent. The demand is staggering. We — God's children — are the only source He has for funds to carry on His work. I also want to include a line or so in regard to your response to my recent letter concerning Gulfshore. We must keep working at the task. — David Grant.

What God Can Do...
LONGFELLOW could take a worthless sheet of paper, write a poem on it, and make it worth sixty thousand dollars. That is talent.

ROCKEFELLER could sign his name to a piece of paper and make it worth millions. That is capital.

UNCLE SAM can take an ounce of gold and stamp an eagle on it and its worth \$20.00. That is money.

A MECHANIC can take material worth \$5.00 and make it into an article worth \$50.00. That is skill.

A MERCHANT can buy an article for \$50, put it on his counter and sell it for dollar. That is business.

BUT GOD can take a worthless, sinful life, wash it, cleanse it in the blood of Jesus, put His spirit within it, and make it a blessing to humanity. That is SALVATION — Newsletter, FBC, Clinton

SINGAPORE — Four Christian books from the Baptist Book Store here were all that was needed to make a believer out of a thief. Book store manager Jac S. Weller found a plastic bag containing four books, leaning against the counter with the following message: "Please do accept my sincere apologies. Thank you. Please pray for this repentant thief, saved and now a believer." The books placed there anonymously were: The Key to Triumphant Living by Jack Taylor, Love in Action by Jane Mail, Habitation of Dragons by Keith Miller, and Hidden Art.

Retired Pastor, 88, Has New Worlds To Conquer In His Writings

MARION, Ill. (BP)—L. G. Hartley, retired pastor of Third Baptist Church here, decided he'd "gotten rather old to run about nights supplying pulps" so he took up writing "to keep myself occupied."

At 88, Hartley is learning to use an electric typewriter, and his writing is beginning to pay off.

Outdoor Illinois magazine at Benton has published one of his stories: "The Barefoot Mule and the 1903 Ice Storm." It tells about a January when he was a boy of 16, carried the U.S. Mail from Hartsville, Ill. to Harrisburg, Ill., in an ice storm.

"Paw Hartley," as he's known around the Southern Illinois communities he served for more than half a century with his wife, "Maw Hartley," may well prove age is no barrier to a new "career."

Spectacular Slated March 21-23, 1974

NASHVILLE — Church: the Sunday Night Place SPECTACULAR will take place in Ft. Worth, Tex., March 21-23, 1974, at the Tarrant County Convention Center. More than 10,000 people are expected to attend.

From beginning to end SPECTACULAR is planned to expose church training members and leaders to ideas, plans, experiences and inspiration which will enable them to take a new look at Sunday night activities in their churches.

Every worship experience, conference session and display is designed to "take home and use." SPECTACULAR will be a festival of ideas bringing sessions of worship services, all of which are related to strengthening Sunday night in churches.

Some of the special guests attending the SPECTACULAR include the "Centurymen;" Gerald Ray, to lead congregational singing; astronauts Bill Pogue of Space Lab III and James Irwin, who walked on the moon; the Spring Street Singers; singer Cynthia Clawson; and W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas.

Others on the program will be Charles Bodie, president of American Baptist Seminary, to sing spirituals; and the Hale and Wilder musical duo from New York. Presenting a special preaching trilogy will be Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex.; Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City; and Dale Cowling, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark.

Ruth Byers, creator of JOT, is planning and coordinating a drama festival to include drama ideas for worship, fellowship and training. The festival also will include the use of games and body language.

Delta Bottoroff, Dallas Baptist College, is planning a series of activities in which participants will experiment with art and media as means of group study, fellowship, etc.

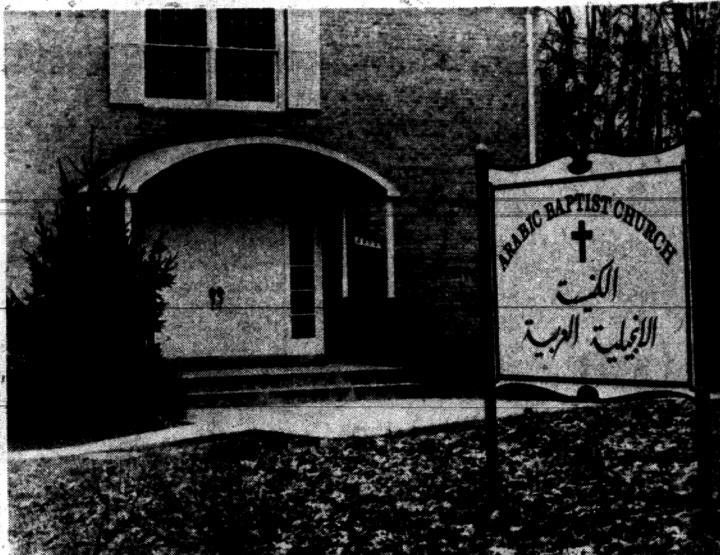
Sunday School Board will preach the Saturday morning sermon on "Sunday Night — A Time, A Place, A People," and the SPECTACULAR will close with the premiere of a sic drama with lyrics by Ragan Courtney and music by Buryl Red.

Sessions are planned for leaders

before the festival to secure secretary-treasurer of the Sunday School Board in 1983.

Author of the book, *Your Life and Your Church*, he is also a frequent contributor of articles to magazines, religious journals, lesson quarters, and tracts.

If individuals sending their ideas will include their names, it will be possible to correspond with them further about the need, if necessary, adds Bradley. However, all ideas will be welcomed and will be considered whether the sender identifies himself or not.



Not All Follow The Same Path

WASHINGTON, D.C.—It is easy to think that all Arabs are Moslem. Most are, but this building which houses the Arabic Baptist church in Washington, D.C. makes it clear that some Arabs are Christians. The majority of Washington's Arab population worships at a mosque connected with the city's Islamic Center. — (RNS Photo)



SOUTHERN BAPTISTS DO — Sami Ammari, Southern Baptist home missionary to Arabic-speaking people in the Boston area, speaks to a meeting of Arab evangelical groups in Washington, D.C. Theme of the meeting was "No Man Careth for My Soul." Ammari added the note: "Southern Baptists Do." The gathering of people from across the United States and Canada, predominantly Baptists, named an advisory committee to seek cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention. (Baptist Press Photo)

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Thursday, January 17, 1974

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

Top Ten News Stories For '73 Told In Baptist Press Poll

(Continued From Page 1)

heard before the U.S. Supreme Court and the Southern Baptist attorney who instigated proceedings leading to the court's decision to strike down abortion statutes.

In the protracted controversy among Missouri Baptists, auditors cited mismanagement of funds and affairs by convention leaders.

Earl O. Harding, the Missouri Convention's executive secretary, died during the investigation. His death came before the convention's 1973 annual session at which it devoted most of its time to resolving the crisis.

The orthodoxy issue was two-pronged — involving debate in several state conventions over open communion and alien baptism on the one hand and the 1963 statement of Baptist Faith and Message on the other.

In one orthodoxy development, an independently-formed Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship launched a publication, *The Southern Baptist Journal*, with the stated purpose of exposing so-called "liberals" in Southern Baptist life.

In other developments, Hershel H. Hobbs, former SBC president, warned against making the Baptist Faith and Message statement a creed and Wayne E. Ward, a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, speaking in Texas, charged that "self-appointed orthodoxy committees are the kiss of death" and are "unChristian, unBiblical and unBaptistic."

CAMPINAS, Brazil — A communications clinic sponsored by the Radio and Television Commission of the Brazilian Baptist Convention drew 27 participants from four states. The course consisted of 12 hours of study of the theoretical and practical aspects of television and radio. Alan Compton, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's radio-TV representative in Latin America, and Iigon Janait, president of the evangelism board of the Brazilian convention, taught classes.

NASSAU, Bahamas — Several government officials were among the "standing room only" crowd attending the annual Christmas concert sponsored by the choir of the Bahamas Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention. Hearing the concert of classical and familiar music were Prime Minister and Mrs. Lynden O. Pindling; the Honorable Carlton Francis, minister of development, and his wife; and Dr. Doris Johnson, president of the senate.

Ward, who said he has signed "voluntary statements," including the 1963 statement passed by the Southern Baptist Convention, charged that a member of a "self-appointed" orthodoxy committee had approached him and told him if he could not sign the statement the committee was drafting, "then you're through."

Statistical developments reported in 1973 included revelations that Southern Baptists passed the 12 million mark in membership, set a baptism record in 1972 and reached the billion mark in total receipts.

At least three women were ordained to the ministry last year by Southern Baptist churches and at least one other ordained two women deacons in a continuing emergence of leadership roles by women — although still clearly in the minority among 34,500 churches and 12 million-plus members.

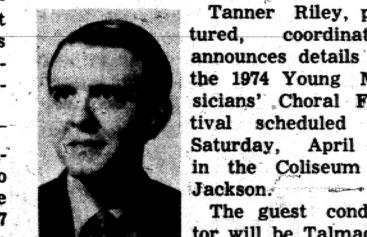
A series of advances in black-white relations in 1973 included the first black department head at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, a survey revealing 75,000 black Southern Baptists and more than 240 blacks working for agencies and as missionaries, election by three state conventions of black officers (including the president of the Alaska convention), a move by the Louisiana convention to strike the word "white" from constitutional membership requirements for churches and the hosting of a dinner by SBC President Owen Cooper in Mississippi for a black Baptist convention president — a first among Southern Baptists.

Ten different issues collected first place votes in widely scattered balloting. The Missouri situation led with seven, the orthodoxy debate collected five and Watergate response, four.

AJLOUN, Jordan — Dr. Sami Hamarni, former director of the pharmaceutical division of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and now a director of research there, recently visited the Southern Baptist Hospital here. Dr. Hamarni's trip to the hospital was necessitated because of his research on an Arab Christian doctor of the 13th century, Dr. Abul Faraj Ibn Al Quff.

Young Musicians' Choral Festival

To Be April 27



Tanner Riley, pictured, coordinator, announces details of the 1974 Young Musicians' Choral Festival scheduled for Saturday, April 27, in the Coliseum in Jackson.

The guest conductor will be Talmadge Butler, preschool music editor, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. Mrs. Hubert Fray, organist at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, will serve as accompanist.

The required music to be memorized for the festival is: "Alleluia, Angels Sing," Leach (YM 10-73) Octavo No. 4558-44, \$2.25, Broadman; "Hosanna," Red (YM 1-74) Octavo No. 4558-48, \$2.35, Broadman; "Let the Trumpet Sound," Caldwell, Octavo No. 4580-33, \$2.35, Broadman; "For the Beauty of the Earth," Red, Octavo No. 4560-36, \$2.35, Broadman; "Let the People Praise," Red (from "It's Cool in the Furnace"), Octavo No. CS2602, \$2.00; "Word," "Feed My Lambs," S. Lee, CM7777, \$2.35, Carl Fisher.

All music may be ordered from Baptist Book Store, Jackson, or from the Baptist Anthem Service, Nashville.

FMB Hears - -

(Continued From Page 1)

maining 25 years of this century the gospel is not presented on a scale beyond anything the world has ever seen."

Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division, pointed out the "notable strengthening" of the U.S. dollar in the overseas market during the closing months of the year.

E. L. Deane, treasurer of the board, reported \$39,435,694 in total gifts to foreign missions in 1973, an 11 percent increase over 1972.

James D. Belote, secretary for East Asia, told the board that for the first time, Baptist churches in East Asia that are related to Southern Baptist mission work have a total membership of more than 80,000, not including Baptists in mainland China.

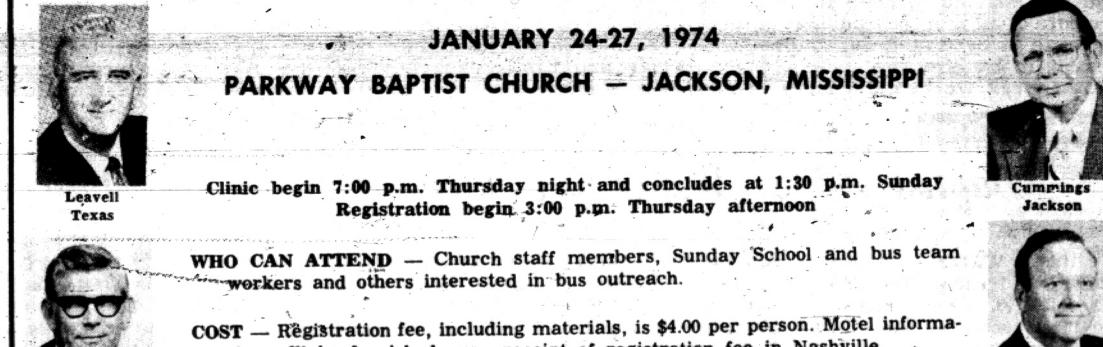
He also spoke of the increasing number of self-supporting churches in East Asia.

Belote reported advances in evangelism, medical work, music work, social ministries and mass communications.

Mid-South Bus Outreach Clinic

JANUARY 24-27, 1974

PARKWAY BAPTIST CHURCH — JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



Clinic begin 7:00 p.m. Thursday night and concludes at 1:30 p.m. Sunday Registration begin 3:00 p.m. Thursday afternoon

WHO CAN ATTEND — Church staff members, Sunday School and bus team workers and others interested in bus outreach.

COST — Registration fee, including materials, is \$4.00 per person. Motel information will be furnished upon receipt of registration fee in Nashville.

REGISTRATION — Send name, address and registration fee to: Mid-South Bus Outreach Clinic, 127th Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, 37224. Make check payable to the clinic. Registrations will be accepted at the clinic.

PROGRAM INFORMATION — Inspiration, practical sessions for experienced and inexperienced workers; visiting on bus routes on Saturday, riding buses on Sunday morning and observing in Sunday School and children's worship services.

Special Interest Conferences

1. Children's Sunday School Workers — Elsie Rives
2. Preschool (4-5) Extended Session Workers — Eldon M. Boone
3. Children's Worship Service Leaders — Mrs. Kerry Grantham
4. Counselors for Children — Rev. John Hilburn
5. Bus Captains — Mrs. Jo Davis
6. Bus Drivers — Don Blackwell
7. Teen-Age Assistants — Rev. Durrell Makamson
8. Buying, Insuring and Maintaining Buses — Rev. James Pierce
9. Adult Sunday School Workers — Bryant M. Cummings
10. Bus Outreach Directors — White, Washburn, Spooner, Leavell, Marsh, Causey

For additional program details, call or write Mississippi Sunday School Department, Jackson, Mississippi

Sponsored By

The Sunday School Departments of the Sunday School Board

Hinds-Madison Baptist Association



The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

The Report Of The "Committee Of Fifteen"

The "Committee of Fifteen", a special group appointed to study the overall operation of the Southern Baptist Convention, has released its report, and it will be considered by the convention Executive Committee at its February meeting in Nashville.

Three Mississippians have served on this committee. They are Dr. Owen Cooper, Yazoo City, Dr. John McCall, Vicksburg, and Mr. T. Cooper Walton, Jackson.

The committee was named in February, 1970, so has spent nearly four years in its work.

Beginning in last week's issue, the Baptist Record is carrying a series of four articles by former editor, Dr. W. C. Fields, now of the Executive Committee office in Nashville, in which an analysis and interpretation of the committee's report is made.

Since the 129-page report is far too long to publish, it is good that Dr. Fields is summarizing it so that interested Southern Baptists can know what the committee has found in its study, and be informed of the recommendations it is making.

The full report is an interesting analysis of the whole program of work of Southern Baptists through its various institutions and agencies. It reveals

the strength of the program, but also points out areas where there may be need for strengthening, and a few places where some change may be called for. No major changes are recommended, but careful study of some of the work by the agencies involved is recommended.

The report commends the various agencies and institutions for most of their programs, but does not hesitate to point out areas of weakness. It sees the convention as doing outstanding work now, but believes that its ministry can be enlarged and made stronger and more effective.

This is the first serious study of the overall program of the convention in about fifteen years, and it is good that it is coming at this time. It is possible that not all recommendations of the committee will be accepted, but this report does open the way for discussion and further study, and we are sure that the result will be for the good of the whole program.

Southern Baptists are today the largest evangelical denomination in the United States, and probably have the largest program of missions, evangelism and other ministries to be found in the land. It is very necessary that from time to time we take a look at

ourselves, to be sure that we are doing all that God wants us to do, and that the denomination is serving the nation and the world with the greatest effectiveness.

The committee does not, and this is properly so, deal with some of the problems which seem to be arising upon the horizon of the denomination today. While these problems such as doctrinal issues, the charismatic movement, and some others, may become serious enough to have to be considered, they are not that important at this time, and are not within the province of the purpose for which this committee was appointed. Should the problems become of such nature that they must be given study, we are sure that proper committees to do that will be appointed.

The present report is a good one, and the committee has done a commendable job. We feel that the whole denominational program will profit by the study which it has made, and the recommendations which it is bringing. We would encourage our readers to study the series of articles which we are publishing, so that they may be familiar with the work this committee has done, and may understand its proposals.

Could They Pass A Bible Quiz?

The advertisement caught my eye. It appeared in the weekly publication of another conservative denomination, which promotes its Bible teaching (Sunday school) program much in the same way that Southern Baptist do it.

The advertisement related to Sunday school literature. The catch line was "Can your juniors pass this quiz on basic Bible teaching?" There followed an offer of a quiz to be sent for testing what the Juniors really have learned about basic Bible doctrine. In a day, when some groups have turned further and further away from keeping the Bible at the center of their curriculum, it was good to see the emphasis that this denomination is giving.

Southern Baptists continue to keep the Bible at the center. The Sunday School Board is under mandate from the convention to keep the literature Bible oriented. We rejoice that leaders of the board understand the purpose which the convention has set for them, and are striving to keep the Bible as the core of all that they publish. It must continue to be that if our Baptist witness is to be effective.

Last week we heard a story which

thrilled our hearts. It concerned a lady who grew up in one of our Mississippi Baptist churches, where the Bible always was kept at the center in the Sunday School program. Not too long ago she moved to the Washington area, and she and her family began attending a Baptist church in Maryland suburb of the capital city. When she took her small child into one of the pre-school Sunday school departments, she found interest centers of several types, such as home, story, nature, etc., but when she asked about a Bible center where the children would be taught Bible stories and truths, she learned that they did not have one. She told the leaders that she would not send her children to a Sunday school where they did not teach the Bible, and that she was going to talk to the pastor about it. She did talk to the pastor, and told him that if she brought her children to that Sunday school she was going to bring the Bible and Bible story books and set up a center so that the children could learn those too. The pastor was interested, and the result was that the whole Sunday school teaching program was revolutionized as a church put the Bible and Bible teaching back into its children's Sunday school program.

How we thank God for a courageous Mississippi young woman, who dared to take a stand for Bible centered teaching for her children in another area of the nation. How grateful, too, for a Mississippi church which taught her this emphasis, and for the Southern Baptist denomination, which has the Bible at the center of its whole program.

Are we doing as much as we should be doing, however, in teaching the Bible to our children, and in learning its truths ourselves? How many of them, and how many of those of us who are older, could pass a test on basic Bible truths? This is something which all of us who are responsible for what is being done in our churches, need to seriously consider. Is the Bible really being taught in our churches and in our homes? In a day when the television has taken the position as the most used teacher in the family it is imperative that we definitely plan for Bible study and Bible teaching. The church must lead the way in it, but, the parents have a responsibility to see that the Bible is not a forgotten book in the home. All persons need the Bible's message today. Let us determine that we shall make it available for all!

Baptist Editor Writes On Techniques Of Christian Writing

HOW I WRITE by Robert J. Hastings (Robert J. Hastings, Box 2600, Springfield, Illinois, 62708, 158 pp., paper, \$5.95) One of the most successful authors among Southern Baptists today, Dr. Robert J. Hastings, editor of the *Illinois Baptist*, writes a self-help manual on writing. He calls it a book on how he writes, and how others, especially beginning writers, can learn to write. First, he tells of his experience in breaking into writing, and then how he developed his skills and techniques. This is followed by chapter by chapter discussion of what he calls Hastings' Laws of Writing. There are twelve of these laws, and they give practical, clear suggestions, on having something to say; how to say it in a readable manner, and how to break into the world of publication. This is a splendid manual which should be of real value to all writers, both those who are experienced, and those who aspire to get into the field. The book is well written, attractively printed, and will be easy to study and use.

The Issues We Face and Some Biblical Answers, Bill Stephens, Compiler (Broadman, Readers Plan edition, 128 pp.) Ethical problems which confront Christians today. Discussed by competent leaders in the field are Sex, Divorce, Abortion, Women's Liberation, Birth, Aging, Mercy Killing, Cremation, Political Pollution and Alcohol. Writers seek to give a Christian view of answers to problems raised by the issues.

wards (Word Books, 107 pp., \$2.95) A delightful book for children ages 8 to 12, this is the story of the adventures of Manuel during a summer on the southeast coast of Georgia.

GOD, THE DISTURBER by Alan Walker (Word, \$3.95, 136 pp.) Mr. Walker, superintendent of a mission in Sydney, Australia, proclaims a God "who is disturbing the status quo, the so-called peace, in order to fill men with the inner peace of faith and hope."

RELIC BLANKETS FAMILY SIZE by Irene Marrell (Word, \$3.95, 130 pp.) This is a potpourri of articles about real-life family experiences. It is an honest sharing that will often make the reader smile — or sometimes wipe away a tear.

GOD BEING MY HELPER by Ralph A. Herring (Broadman, paper, reprint, 132 pp.) In this book illustrations and true stories from Dr. Herring's pastoral career, are combined with sound biblical interpretation to show how the Spirit is both Comforter and Teacher. (During the ten years the late Dr. Herring was head of the Seminary Extension Department, SBC, he served for a time in Jackson.)

PEOPLE PARABLES by James E. Carter (Baker, paper, 115 pp., \$1.95) 108 true and modern parables about the people of today. Topically arranged for easy use in talks or sermons.

COME FLY WITH ME by Lane Adams, with foreword by Billy Graham (Regal Books, paper, 117 pp., \$1.25) Good pilots would not dream of flying without first planning the details. Yet most people take the journey of life without the foggiest notion of their plan or their destination. In this book Lane Adams, former evangelist with the Billy Graham team, communicates his flight plan for life.

WHY ME, GOD? by Robert N. Schaper (Gospel Light, paper, \$1.25, 146 pp.) The author discusses the leading ideas in the book of Job. His book will appeal to everyone who has ever asked, "Why?" and to anyone who ever suffered mentally, emotionally or physically. His is a unique presentation of the dialogues between Job and his friends. Rather than dealing with arguments, Dr. Schaper presents the men involved and the issues each represented. He leads the reader to honestly explore the question: "Why does suffering come to good people?" Is it possible to trust God without being convinced that present benefit will result, to trust God even in the face of overwhelming trouble?"

HOW TO TALK WITH GOD by Stephen Winward (Harold Shaw Publishers, paper, \$1.25, 90 pp.) This book is an attempt to relate to children between the ages ten and thirteen the story of human sexuality. It is an aid to Christian parents who feel the responsibility to search out with their children the Biblical standards and attitudes toward sex, marriage and family living.

GETTING TO KNOW GOD by Paul Steeves (InterVarsity Press, paper, \$1.50) This book sets forth what God has said, through the Bible, about himself. It contains Bible studies on God's being, sovereignty, holiness, goodness and love. For individual or group study.

HOW HUMAN CAN YOU GET? by Charles Martin (InterVarsity Press, paper, \$1.75, 160 pp.) The author, in the belief that humanist and Christian thinking both overlap and differ, points the way to an understanding of the uniqueness and value of man.

PSALMS 1-72 by Derek Kidner (InterVarsity, 257 pp., \$5.95. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries series) This new volume will provide for both laymen and professionals a fresh and penetrating guide to the first 72 Psalms. Mr. Kidner discusses authorship, date, Hebrew poetic style, structure of the book, and trends in modern scholarship. Each psalm is analyzed in depth. Mr. Kidner's understanding and love for poetry and music shine through his analysis of Hebrew literature.

THE HAMMER OF THE LORD by Colin Morris (Abingdon, 160 pp., \$4.75) This is a book about hope. An English Methodist, once missionary to Africa, tells where and why he finds hope in a world of despair.

BROADMAN CHURCH RESOURCE GUIDE, 1973-74 (Broadman, 71 pp., paper) A list of audiovisual materials and books that can be used in all educational programs of the church arranged by Sundays and by age groups, plus suggestions for Vacation Bible School and Weekday Bible Study. Includes a usage index for cross reference.

YOU'RE NEARLY THERE by Mary Kehoe, M. N. (Harold Shaw Publishers, paper, \$1.25, 90 pp.) This book is an attempt to relate to children between the ages ten and thirteen the story of human sexuality. It is an aid to Christian parents who feel the responsibility to search out with their children the Biblical standards and attitudes toward sex, marriage and family living.



The Only Completely Dependable

On The MORAL SCENE...

CENTENARIANS AND SOCIAL SECURITY — "In June 1973, the Social Security Administration was paying cash benefits to almost 7,000 persons who had submitted reasonable proof of age that showed them to be at least 100 years of age or older. . . . Of all beneficiaries 100 years of age or older, 87.5% were white, 11.5% were Negro, and 1.0% were 'other'. . . . Seven of each ten centenarian beneficiaries were women." — (From "AoA Fact Sheet," Statistical Memo No. 27, October 31, 1973)



Wild Fancher

Parent-child communication is usually something else, isn't it?

This is about the best I've heard on the subject lately.

The other day in the faculty lounge a teaching mother said, "Let me tell you about my conversation with Rick yesterday. It went about like all our conversations have gone lately."

Rick, it developed, is an elementary school pupil. After the first day back at school, he was asked by his mother, "Oh, Rick, wasn't it good to get back to school and see all your friends?"

"Yes'm. All except one."

"All except one? And who is that?"

"Damon." Silence.

"Well. . ." the adult said and waxed motherly on into a five-minute explanation about how some friends are hard to get along with, but that we must try to get along with them, anyhow.

After giving time to let that settle into his mind and his code of ethics, she said, "Why is it that you and Damon don't get along?"

"Oh, we get along."

"Then why weren't you glad to see him today?"

"He wasn't at school."

fly-ash will be used as a substitute for Portland cement. Water pipes will be made of re-claimed copper. Lavatories and bathtubs will be manufactured in part from marble dust, and roofing will be made from re-claimed fibers. Recycled aluminum will be used for sidings and gutters, as well as for floor joists and trusses. Even the foundation of the house will contain recycled materials. Work on the house is scheduled to be completed this spring. — (The Courier-Journal and Times, 1-28-73)

The Parable Of The Pig And The Cow

A pig was lamenting his lack of popularity. He complained to the cow that people were always talking about the cow's gentleness and kind eyes, whereas his name was used as an insult. "Why?" he complained, "we pigs give bacon and ham and bristles and people even pickle our feet. I don't see why you cows are esteemed so much more."

The cow thought awhile and said, "Your problem is that they have to kill you to get anything out of you."

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." — Romans 12:1

Ruhama Baptist News

The Baptist Record

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Taking Stock For 1974

By Erwin L. McDonald

Retired Editor,

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

As preacher - writer for 40 years I've been saying that the beginning of a new year is time for all of us to take personal inventory. Now, thanks to world shortages, taking inventory of our daily ways of life is longer optional.

We have not been on the gold standard for a long time, but we have continued on a dollars - and - cents standard. In this we have felt secure.

Anybody who wasn't lazy, we said, could work and have money. And anybody who had money, we said, could have what he wanted — beautiful home with central heat and air conditioning; whatever he wanted to eat, whatever amounts; as many cars as he jolly well wanted and, of course, many color TV sets. Whatever he wanted to wear, in whatever styles, he could have. All of these he could have, not to mention his own private and extra "White Houses" out by the lakes or up in the hills.

This, we took for granted, was part

of "the American way of life." If there were other people in the world who lived their lives in squalor without all of this, that was just too bad. That was part of the price they had to pay for not being as smart and thrifty as we Americans. And if there were even Americans who didn't have all of these things, let them go to work, like the rest of us.

Now we are having to take a new look, indeed, at the way we are headed. We are having to face up to the fact that we are no longer on a dollars - and - cents standard. We are having to realize as never before that gasoline service stations don't produce gasoline — that merchants are not manufacturers, that there are very real limits to how much is available of everything.

Central air - conditioning is turning out to be not just "central" for your house and mine, but for the universe, reaching to such far - away places as Arabic sheikdoms. For air - conditioning systems are not very central in efficiency without a central energy supply.

So, as we stand at the beginning of a new year, smarting from what has been happening to us in the old, we are fast making some adjustments. We are discovering what a lot of us used to know, that you don't get milk from the grocery store — you get it from the cow.

Materially, our life patterns are beginning to trace to their grassroots of raw products. There was a man named Midas who couldn't eat gold, remember?

The fact that all the peoples of the world are actually passengers together on Spaceship Earth and that all of us are linked together in supply and demand has never been in sharper focus.

In making our personal inventories and adapting to new ways of life, may we do it as brethren and not as cannibals.

PAMPA, Tex. (BP) — Claude Cone, pastor of First Baptist Church here, preached as a pre - Christmas fire destroyed parts of his church's sanctuary and educational building on Sunday, Dec. 23, 1973.

The church is the twelfth Texas Baptist church to be damaged by fire in 1973.

Cone stayed at the church from the time the fire was reported about 5 p.m. until time for the regular Sunday night broadcast over a local radio station.

"We have regular Sunday morning and night broadcasts from the sanctuary," he explained. Cone noted the sermon he had prepared for delivery was preached instead at the radio station studios, when the fire was at its worst.

"We felt it should be a great time

Pastor Preaches While Church Burns

to preach the Gospel. I think maybe somebody would be listening who would really be touched by the Holy Spirit and go ahead and trust Christ," he explained.

"The sermon was from Hebrews 2 about Christ coming to the world to defeat Satan, destroy sin and deliver sinners — the meaning of Christmas," Cone said.

The broadcast lasted only 45 minutes as compared to the regular hour-long service.

Despite the fire, the church program is going forward, he said. The following Wednesday night service brought out 300 participants.

"I know some of our greatest days are just ahead," the pastor said. The 1,300 - member congregation is ready to go... ready to do whatever is needed," he added.

Handicap Doesn't Slow Down This Pastor

GRAYVILLE, Ill. (BP) — What's so unusual about assigning a pastor to write Sunday School lesson materials for a Baptist newspaper?

Not much—unless the pastor is blind.

That's the case with Edgar J. Schulz, 40, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Grayville, who will write Life and Work Sunday School lesson

comments for the Illinois Baptist during the first quarter of the year.

A native of Indiana, he was found to have a malady known as retinitis pigmentosa at age 17. The disease progressed until he is legally blind—and has been since age 28—with less than 10% vision.

He graduated from Oakland City (Ind.) College in 1948 and has served as pastor of eight churches in Indiana and Illinois. While he was pastor at Otterville, Ill., some 45 miles north of St. Louis, the church was recognized as the pastor convention's rural church of the year.

Half-Burned-Out Candles

By Harold M. Dunning

The lights were all burning brightly in a modest home in a modest little town, where suddenly out went all the lights. The whole town was plunged instantly into darkness. A transformer had blown up.

The folks in the little home were frozen in their places, for the darkness was complete. Someone remembered a box of old half-burned-out candles. Where were they? Mother remembered. Soon one was lit, then two, and then half a dozen. The folks could laugh again, and go about their work. Just a few old half-burned-out candles—but what a blessing!

No one has ever been able to make candles material burn without a wick—just a little cotton thread running down the center of the candle. It burns, and fills every inch of the room with light. And now it fills the heart after the utter darkness!

The sermon? Let a thread of love run through the center of your life, and it will light and bless the world around you.—Life Line

Lottie Moon Offering Receives \$25,000 From A Centenarian

By Edgar R. Cooper

Editor, Florida Baptist Witness

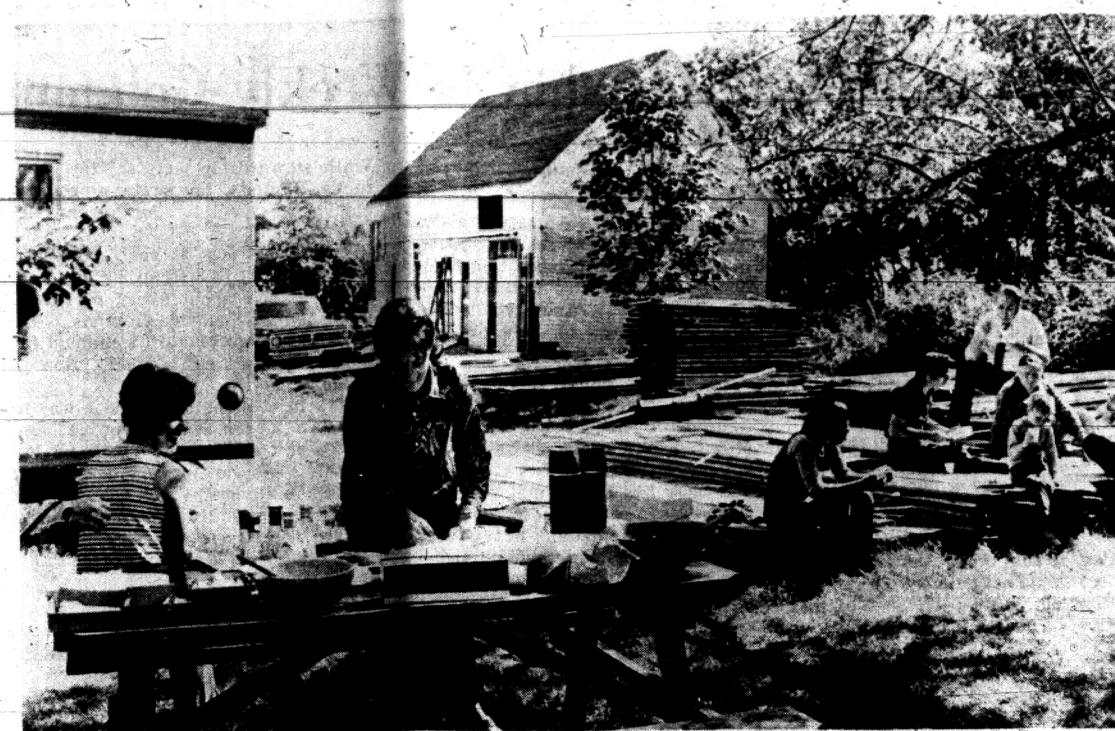
MELBOURNE, Fla. (BP) — A centenarian recently honored the centennial of the arrival of former mission Lottie Moon in China by contributing \$25,000 to the Southern Baptist Foreign Missions offering named for Miss Moon.

C. L. Howard, a Baptist layman who turned 103 on Oct. 26, 1973, was three years old when Lottie Moon arrived in China in 1873 to begin her missionary career. One hundred years later his \$25,000 gift to the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is appraised by the Foreign Mission Board as one of the largest gifts, if not the largest, ever given to the offering by a living individual.

A native North Carolinian, Howard comes from a strong Christian background. My father was a man who had prayers and devotions every night," Howard said. "We'd meet around the fireplace. Sometimes he'd read from the Bible — just a verse or two with a lot of meaning and he'd always pray.

"He had the reputation of being the pryingest man in church. My mother and father never had any cross words and they were always good to each other."

Close to church work all his life, Howard served as a deacon in Greensboro, N. C., where he makes his summer home, and also functioned in the same capacity in the First Baptist Church of Melbourne, Fla., where he lives during the winter.



An Old Barn Becomes A Church

PEABODY, Mass. — Members of the North Shore (Southern) Baptist church of Peabody, Mass., eat a picnic lunch together while spending a day working to convert an old barn, built in 1792, into a church build-

ing for their congregation. The congregation jokes that they will, when finished, have the newest 181-year-old church in the state. As much of the original barn is being preserved as possible. (RNS Photo)

Option For Singles

South Main Church's 'Main Point' Ministry

By Larry Jorden

HOUSTON (BP) — The romanticized lifestyle of the so-called "swinging singles" often leads to dead ends of emptiness and loneliness for many of the one - quarter million young adults in this sixth largest city in the United States.

As in other cities, entrepreneurs cater to Houston's young "swingers" by offering places like T. G. I. Friday's and the Sportspage Club for eating, drinking, dancing and just mingling.

Singles apartment complexes around, with clubs and recreation facilities designed to maximize interaction.

Not all of the young single men and women in Houston, or any other American city, will fit into the party lifestyle. However, when confronted with those who do fit the "swinging singles" description, most churches react with resignation.

At best, some congregations may offer to help when age, loneliness, emptiness or marriage take a person off the singles circuit.

Houston's South Main Baptist Church decided that local Christians shouldn't write off an estimated 20 per cent of the city's population and began a ministry with a "place" aimed directly at the Friday's - Sportspage crowd.

The "place" is The Main Point, at Main and Peggy Point Plaza.

"For directions," says South Main's Dan Yearly, "we tell people it's across from Sears, Loew Delman Theater or the Zipper Lounge — whatever your orientation, you can find it."

For the church - oriented, the Main Point is on property adja-

cent to South Main Church, the largest of the city's 222 Southern Baptist congregations.

The Houston church called Yearly as minister to students and young adults on the recommendation of Kenneth Chafin, who left the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board as director of evangelism to assume the South Main pastorate in 1972.

Formerly of Lubbock, Tex., Yearly served as minister of students for the First Baptist Church in the city where Texas Techological University is located.

When the decision was made to attempt a ministry to the city's singles, the need was seen for a building from which the program could radiate.

A 20,000 - square - foot, two-story structure, vacant for seven years, stood near the church.

The owners, American General Investment Corp., had offers from Sears Roebuck and Co. who wanted the property for a parking lot, and from a bank. All the church could do was tell the corporation what it would do with the building, then pray, Yearly said.

"Less than a month later," he recalled, "they gave us the building. We bought the land for \$300,000."

Since the \$1 million worth of property and buildings, even choice Houston property, didn't make a ministry. South Main proposed an option to the sex-drink - dance lifestyle that appeared to dominate the singles culture. Yearly and his co-workers realized that not everyone involved in such a life was waiting to leave it and jump into the arms of the church. But it wasn't hard to find many ready for a change, he said.

"When these young singles come to a big city, their first

reaction is, 'Wow, I can do anything I want and nobody is going to check on me,'" Yearly observed.

"But sooner or later that first exhilaration of freedom turns to the realization that 'Yes, you can do anything you want, and nobody cares... nobody cares at all."

With that realization, Yearly said, loneliness sets in and with it the frightening anonymity of the big city.

Loneliness and anonymity probably keep many of the singles in the "swinging" apartment complexes, where promiscuity is an accepted lifestyle, long after the initial "thrill" is gone and despair sets in, Yearly noted. With all the mingling and sleeping around there's an almost total lack of warm, personal relationships, he continued.

The Main Point hopes to offer an atmosphere where such wholesome relationships can flourish, he added.

The Main Point "game" plan is to train Christian students and singles for penetration into the singles sub - culture, there to cultivate relationships, plus offer an option to new friends and a self - fulfilling lifestyle.

As preparation for this penetration, a large part of the early Main Point's training includes training in counseling, Christian encounter groups and Bible study.

"We hope to provide a lab situation where our people can gain experience before we send them out," Yearly said.

The initial schedules featured Bible study on Sunday mornings and evenings and Wednesdays evenings. Outreach meetings are held Monday evenings.

Bible study is the point at which many of the top laymen in the church key in. Located in an education and business center, South Main has an unusually high educational level among its membership. All of the Bible teachers in the Main Point have at least master's degrees, several have doctorates and some are working on second doctorates, Yearly said.

The same level of competence exists among other church members in business, medical and legal communities, who teach classes, serve on committees and function as deacons.

"These people think big in their businesses," Yearly notes, "and they will settle for nothing less in their church roles. Ken (Chafin) is the catalyst and this is one aggressive church."

The full range of Main Point programs include the South Main Free University, a Christian entertainment center, a little theater, an 1800s ice cream parlor and opportunities for Bible study.

Rooms are also available for private study, for listening to music and for just talk.

The free university was to begin a Wednesday night schedule offering such benefits as English conversation for international graduate students. Courses were to include typing, sewing, auto maintenance for women, Bible courses, and, for those contemplating such a step, preparation for marriage.

The Christian entertainment center booked a full schedule for the 1973-74 school year, including entertainers Cynthia Clawson, Ken Medema, Gene Cotton, Lester Hariston, Buddy Griffin, the

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5
Thursday, January 17, 1974

Singing Churchmen To Sing For Two Upcoming Events

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen will sing Tuesday evening, January 29, at First Church, Brookhaven, as part of a week of dedication of the church's new sanctuary and family life center. Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be the guest speaker at the Tuesday night service. Rev. P. A. Michel is pastor of the church.

The Churchmen will also sing Tuesday night, February 5, for the State Evangelism Conference, to be held at First Church, Vicksburg.

Music directors, singing pastors, other staff members, and laymen are invited to sing with the group at these performances. A brief rehearsal is scheduled at 4 p.m. preceding each event. Singers should wear dark blue shirts and white trousers. Ties will be furnished.

The South America tour group of the Singing Churchmen have scheduled additional rehearsals on January 29 and February 5. This tour will be May 6-17, 1974.

Richard Puckett Fiddlers, Grady Nutt, Jerry Clover and Three Way Glass.

Many entertainers scheduled for the Main Point have appeared as Chafin's guests on the Home Mission Board's nationally televised evangelistic program, Spring Street USA. Chafin hosts the program which features guest stars and music by the Spring Street Singers.

The Main Point Theater scheduled talent show on opening night and will stage drama throughout the season. A series of major films will be a launching pad for discussion.

Before The Main Point was opened, the number of students coming to South Main had increased from 75 to 160 in four months, and the out - of - school singles attendance had jumped from 123 to 270.

The potential is there. The need is great. Hopefully, it will work, and the singles of Houston will have an option... That's the "main point."

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is adapted from the November issue of *World Mission Journal*.

TV Documentary Reveals Baptist

Life In The USSR

HAMBURG, Germany (BP) — A four - part, 30 - minute documentary on the problems Baptists face in the USSR is being shown by most West German television stations, according to a report by Rudolph Thaut, president of Hamburg Baptist Seminary.

Thaut, writing for European Baptist Press Service, says one section "is an amateur film" showing a "well-attended worship service" which was held in a forest "since the congregation is not granted official registration and, therefore, has no other meeting place.

"The film shows security forces as they halt and dissolve the meeting and indicate that the church leaders responsible will be called before the courts," Thaut reports.

"Afterwards, the amateur film shows a baptismal service, taking place before sunrise in a river, also because of the registration question," the report continues.

Thaut said another part consists of interviews with emigrants who recently left the USSR. "They report clearly and impressively about discriminations, persecutions and difficulties which believers and churches experience in the country," Thaut said.

The telecast, produced by NDR (North German Radio and TV), "gives a very clear picture of the actual situation of churches in the Soviet Union. It shows the opportunities which churches have to assemble but also elaborates the limitations and persecutions which churches and individuals must face," Thaut continues.

He said an interview, made in Hamburg with four Moscow - based members of the All - Union Baptist Council, including the union's general secretary, Alexei Bichkov, reports on the possibilities of church work, the training of pastors and the very limited scope of Christian education for children.

The documentary is narrated by Erik Ruden of Stockholm, former general secretary of the European Baptist Federation.



Three of the Main Point singles discuss plans for its use at the fountain and pool out front. Waiting for the evening program to begin are (L-R) Dick Parker, Debby Whisland, and Milton Doolley. —BP Photo by Larry Jorden

Baptist Editor Aims For Mass Readership In Weekly Column

By John M. Whitman
SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Robert J. Hastings, editor of the ILLINOIS BAPTIST, has expanded his readership by syndicating a shorter version of his weekly column to secular newspapers.

Last January, Hastings sent samples of his "Letter from Home" to the 300 dailies and weeklies in Illinois, offering it free. To date 50 have asked to be on the weekly mailing. The column in secular papers carries the same title.

In 1972, Hastings changed from an editorial format to a human-interest column in the ILLINOIS BAPTIST, which he has edited since 1967.

"I usually select some item out of

the news," Hastings said, "and do an inspirational spin-off, but non-sectarian. It may be a headline-grabbing event, such as Watergate or S. lab I. Or some obscure news item with unusual human-interest, such as 3 paragraphs about a carnival mummy that was buried in Dallas, 60 years after the man had died."

He points out that a newspaper column is "one of the quickest ways to reach a large audience, since nearly everyone budgets at least a few minutes a day for the paper. They may never crack a book nor subscribe to a magazine, but they'll read a newspaper some time."

Also, he said many readers of newspapers would never pick up a religious publication. But the chances of their reading a short inspirational article

— 300 words — in their home town paper are good.

Hastings was impressed, he said, by the potential of reaching a mass market when he learned that 60 million people subscribe to the 1,700 dailies in the U. S. Another 23 million read one or more of the 9,500 American weeklies.

The Illinois editor said he got the idea for "Letter from Home" while writing "A Nickel's Worth of Skim Milk," a book about his boyhood during the Thirties. He said response to this book has shown that people will read human-interest stories more readily than something heavy like an editorial or opinion column. And he can still get his point across.

But this is not the first column in secular papers for Bob Hastings

While stewardship secretary for Kentucky Baptists, he wrote a column called "Perspective" for papers in that state.

During the past 25 years, Hastings has written 11 books and authored articles in just about every periodical published by Southern Baptists. He is currently working on a manual for beginning writers titled, "How I Write."

Now he feels he has found a way to reach a larger segment of readers. He doesn't expect to get into all 10,000 American newspapers — nor even all 330 in Illinois — but he's already touching the homes of some who never see a religious periodical.

The following is a sample "Letter from Home."

Mrs. Hugh McCormack Dies At Age 76

Mrs. Hugh E. (Thelma Graham) McCormack was buried in Jackson December 26, 1973. She was 76. Dr. J. Hardee Kennedy, New Orleans Seminary professor, and Dr. J. H. Tuten, pastor of Calvary, Jackson, officiated at the funeral service.

Mrs. McCormack had served sever-

al times as a messenger to the state Baptist convention. She made a profession of faith in Christ as a child and joined Second Church, Jackson (later renamed Calvary). For 25 years she was active in all phases of church work, but with special emphasis on her high school girls' Sunday School class. She was a Gold Seal teacher.

When the McCormack family moved to Morton she organized and served as superintendent of the first vacation Bible School ever held by First Baptist Church of that city. Although it was 35 years ago, adults who were children in that Bible school attended her funeral.

In the future the Mississippian says he may go into a street ministry. Or, "For one year, I may just read the Bible and get myself in condition with God."

Other retired servicemen enrolled in the seminary include Archie Bell of Birmingham, Ala.; Thurman Benson Jr. of Pitts, Ga.; Houston Anglin of Tallahassee, La.; Bradford Durkee of Baltimore, Md.; Samuel T. Lewis of Orange Park, Fla.; Earl Phares of Beaumont, Tex.; and Benjamin E. Spurlock of New Orleans, La.

In the future the Mississippian says he may go into a street ministry. Or, "For one year, I may just read the Bible and get myself in condition with God."

At age 48, Mrs. McCormack developed crippling arthritis and heart failure. Never active again, she counseled many and had a constant prayer life. She supported her pastor, wherever she was. And she was a missionary where she was at all times.

Finally, when death does come, thank God that he gives us the kind of life which makes death not the victor but the vanquished. He takes away the sting of death, which is guilt, but he cannot always free us from pain or hurt at the loss of loved ones.

"A letter from home" No. 41

If you are like me, you have probably said the following about other people:

"I can't understand why she said that."

"It's beyond me why anyone would do such a thing."

"Can you imagine him reacting that way?"

When we make such remarks about other persons, we imply that we would have done otherwise. Or said otherwise, or acted otherwise.

The truth is that we can never know how we would react or what we would say, unless we were in that person's shoes.

We do not know all the pressures he faces. Or the background details. We see only that part of the iceberg which is above water. Only the per-

son we presume to judge knows what hides beneath the surface.

A kinder, fairer judgment of another person would be, "I might have reacted in the same way myself."

This does not approve his actions or words. This does not say that what he did or said is right. This merely admits that under similar circumstances, I might have reacted no less nobly than the person I am judging.

The reasoning of men is feeble, and our plans are fallible; because a perishable body weighs down the soul, and its frame of clay burdens the mind. With difficulty we guess even at things on earth. . . and who has ever traced out what is in heaven? (Wisdom of Solomon 9:14-16 NEB).

—Bob Hastings

Retired Serviceman Forges New Career

By Marion Harvey Carroll

"I've been engaged in three wars, two county fairs, and one hogcalling," claims John Cutrer of Osky, Miss.

Cutrer is one of eight students at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary who have 175 years in common — their combined total years of military service. Enrolled in two diploma and two degree programs, the men range in age from 30 to 55.

Forging new careers is the aim of the retired servicemen, who have chosen not to join the rocking-chair brigade yet.

Called to preach at the age of 43, John Cutrer, now 46, is working on a diploma in pastoral ministry. Since its inception, the seminary has offered diploma programs for people of 30 years or older who hold no college degrees.

A veteran of 23 years in the U. S. Air Force, Cutrer was serving as officers' club secretary in Alexandria, La., when God called him to preach.

Having been "out on the town" Saturday night with dignitaries from Washington, D. C., the former serviceman remembers he wasn't exactly overjoyed the next morning when his children asked him to attend church with them. But he went anyway.

There, "The Lord spoke to me," he recalls, "and I could see myself crucifying Christ."

His superiors discouraged him from answering his "call." One general told him he would never be if he entered the



HEADED FOR CLASS — John Cutrer of Osky, Miss., a military retiree, proves that it's never too late to renew formal education. A diploma student, Cutrer makes his way to a class in New Testament at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is one of eight military retirees who are enrolled at the seminary.

ministry. "I said I'd just have to starve, 'cause I was going anyway," he relates.

Before entering the seminary in 1972, Cutrer served in the Philippines, where he worked with a Baptist mission.

Now, after a year's study in the diploma program, the Air Force retiree evaluates the effect of his military life on his future ministry: "I saw people from every walk of life. I met the Vice President of the United States in the morning and people from skid row in the afternoon." As a result, he thinks he has a better understanding of people.

The transition from military to student-civilian life has brought many adjustments for Cutrer, his wife, the former Margaret Clark of Chesapeake, La., and their seven daughters. One of the hardest, he notes, has been to discipline himself to study.

On the positive side, he's quick to point out that his family is "closer now and happier. . . . We have less money, but we've found ourselves."

In the future the Mississippian says he may go into a street ministry. Or, "For one year, I may just read the Bible and get myself in condition with God."

Other retired servicemen enrolled in the seminary include Archie Bell of Birmingham, Ala.; Thurman Benson Jr. of Pitts, Ga.; Houston Anglin of Tallahassee, La.; Bradford Durkee of Baltimore, Md.; Samuel T. Lewis of Orange Park, Fla.; Earl Phares of Beaumont, Tex.; and Benjamin E. Spurlock of New Orleans, La.

Finally, when death does come, thank God that he gives us the kind of life which makes death not the victor but the vanquished. He takes away the sting of death, which is guilt, but he cannot always free us from pain or hurt at the loss of loved ones.

POWERLINE

A Straight Line to Teens

Dr. J. P. Allen, Director, Audience Response

DEATH OF GRANDFATHER DISTURBS GIRL

Mary G. is 17 and had her first serious encounter with death. Disturbance and doubt shook her faith.

I have a problem that seems to have affected my relationship with God. It concerns the death of my grandfather. He raised me as his child and I loved him dearly. What I don't understand is why? I prayed to God to spare him; I somehow believed that God would let my grandfather fulfill his purpose in life. I love God and I still pray for understanding. I want to believe in him but I feel my relationship is strained because of this incident. Why didn't God answer my prayer?

Clearly this was no time for tongue clucking. When kids ask "why?" you've got to come to grips with the question.

Whoever petitions God for his power must also consult his wisdom! How would you like to be on this planet if we humans could employ the indescribable power of the Almighty in combination with our own small understanding? If I could get God to do what I want him to do without regard for his knowledge or compassion, then I would have unleashed terrible forces of destruction in an otherwise orderly universe.

Of course you pled for your grandfather's life. God would want you to do that. But you did not know all the circumstances of the disease, nor could you know the future. You can trust God to run his creation so that everything "works together for good." So never ask God to suspend the laws of nature to keep you from being hurt. If your grandfather's body could no longer sustain life, then death had to come — as it must to us all.

Finally, when death does come, thank God that he gives us the kind of life which makes death not the victor but the vanquished. He takes away the sting of death, which is guilt, but he cannot always free us from pain or hurt at the loss of loved ones.

POWERLINE is a 30-minute program for teens produced by Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission and carried by 771 stations. Write for a station list, Box 12157, Fort Worth, Texas 76116.

Top 25 Churches - By Member Category For 1973 Cooperative Program Giving

Association	Church	Res. Memb.	C.P. Gifts	Per Capita	Pastor	Association	Church	Res. Memb.	C.P. Gifts	Per Capita	Pastor					
CHURCH CATEGORY 700 OR OVER																
Grenada	FBC Grenada	1174	59,396.78	50.59	Dr. John L. Taylor	Oktibbeha	FBC Maben	261	7,243.97	27.75	Rev. Randle S. Poss					
Warren	FBC Vicksburg	1355	64,912.14	47.91	Dr. John G. McCall	Lee	Sherman	200	5,516.35	27.58						
Yazoo	FBC Yazoo Ci	1011	46,122.63	45.62	Rev. James F. Yates	Tippah	Lowrey Mem	313	8,350.39	26.68	Dr. Douglas Clark					
Lowndes	FBC Columbus	1377	59,483.29	43.20	Dr. Joe McKeever	Yalobusha	FBC Coffeeville	397	10,100.21	25.44	Rev. Donnie L. Stewart					
Alcorn	FBC Corinth	790	33,590.46	42.52	Rev. John M. Causey	Pike	FBC Summit	394	10,000.00	25.38	Rev. Larry Fields					
Lauderdale	FBC Meridian	1478	61,093.70	41.31	Dr. Beverly Tinnin	Jeff-Davis	Washington	263	6,537.54	24.86	Rev. Robert E. Jones					
Hinds-Madison	FBC Clinton	952	37,466.89	39.36	Dr. Bill R. Baker	Riverside	White Sand	394	9,664.35	24.53	Rev. Billy Greene					
Lebanon	FBC Hattiesburg	1287	48,540.88	38.31	Dr. Brooks H. Wester	Pontotoc	Tunica	344	8,395.36	24.41	Rev. Pat Nowell					
Pontotoc	FBC Pontotoc	775	29,487.78	38.05	Dr. W. Lavon Moore	Mississippi	Echu	250	6,050.00	24.20	Rev. Charles Stubblefield					
Adams	FBC Natchez	943	32,974.76	34.97	Rev. Odean W. Puckett	Lauderdale	Woodville	283	6,782.88	23.97	Rev. O. B. Beverly					
Washington	FBC Greenville	1570	54,030.41	34.41	Rev. G. Barry Landrum	Mississippi	FBC Marion	252	6,000.93	23.81	Rev. Edsel C. Wells					
Lee	Calvary Tupelo	1007	32,806.75	32.58	Dr. Bob N. Ramsay	Centerville	Centerville	339	8,054.22	23.76						
Hinds-Madison	FBC Jackson	3535	114,166.64	32.30	Rev. Franklin Pollard	CHURCH CATEGORY 100-199										
Monroe	FBC Amory	780	25,061.82	32.13	Rev. Larry Kennedy	Union Co	Myrtle	132	5,802.58	43.96	Rev. Percy Ray					
Marion	FBC Columbia	1643	52,100.70	31.71	Rev. Howard Aultman	Sharkey Issaq	Anguilla	137	4,789.33	34.96	Rev. Robert J. Smith					
Rankin	FBC Brandon	795	24,911.85	31.34	Rev. W. T. Baddley	Lauderdale	Hebron	141	4,733.34	33.57	Rev. Joelyn Joynes					
Scott	Forest	719	22,511.32	31.31	Rev. Clyde B. Little	Russell	Russell	173	5,520.00	31.91	Rev. Charles E. Griffith					
Oktibbeha	FBC Starkville	2155	65,335.07	30.32												

A Primary Obligation -- Love Among Believers

By Clifton J. Allen

John 13:1-20, 31-35

The content of chapters 13-17 is unique to the Gospel of John. Here we have the intimate and sublime words spoken by Jesus to the disciples on the night before the crucifixion. The discourse in the upper room and on the way to Gethsemane is a revelation of the deep realities of Christian experience through unity with Christ, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and through oneness and Christian fellowship. In the atmosphere of intimacy and mys-

tery Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then taught them the meaning of that dramatic and symbolic act. He then gave to the disciples the new commandment of love, the ultimate virtue of Christlikeness and the primary obligation resting upon Christians in the relationships with one another.

The Lesson Explained

THE SERVANT LORD (vv. 1-5)

Deity, royalty, humility, and humanity all combine in the event recorded in these verses. They are a majestic portrayal of the lordship and servanthood of Jesus. Jesus knew that his hour was come. He had perfect self-understanding and perfect insight into the minds and hearts of the disciples. He had perfect knowl-

edge of his origin and his destiny — he had come from God and was going to God. He had perfect awareness of his total situation — his approaching death, which would be fulfillment and victory, not defeat, and his certain resurrection. This would be the hour of glory through self-sacrifice for the redemption of the world.

Jesus' love was perfect; it included the betrayer as well as the other disciples; it was the perfect love of God. In full consciousness that he was the eternal Lord, Jesus assumed the role of servant. He arose from the table, laid aside his garment, took a towel and a basin of water, and washed the disciples' feet. There had been no ser-

vant to perform the customary act before the meal, and no one of the disciples volunteered for the menial task. In Jesus' act there was the dignity of humility and the royalty of service. He felt no condescension or humiliation in bathing tired and dusty feet.

EXAMPLE FOR CHRISTIANS (vv. 12-14)

Having finished an acted parable, Jesus resumed his role as the Teacher. He probed the hearts of the disciples to see if they had understood what he had done. He was trying to teach them the emptiness and vanity of greatness in terms of position or status and the primary of greatness

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Mark 2:23-3:5

By Bill Duncan

Everyone is asking when Hank Aaron will break Babe Ruth's record of 714 home runs. This past September, my son and I kept up with his batting results, thinking every day he would break the record. Recently I read that Hank Aaron grew up just forty miles from my hometown. I also discovered we had some things in common. His parents were strict on him as a kid. He had rules, he had chores, and he went to a Baptist church every Sunday. There were plenty of spankings, too. His father worked long hours in a shipyard.

When Hank was 15, he was once offered two dollars to play baseball on Sunday afternoon. He turned it down because he knew his mama would never allow him to play ball on Sunday.

I once thought about trying out for a semi-pro team near Pascagoula, but I didn't because I could hear Mother say, "We are not the kind of people that play baseball for money on Sunday."

What's a guy to do on Sunday? If I had grown up in Jesus' day that question would have been easy to answer. Jesus was taught many rules to help him keep the Sabbath holy. One must not do any work on the Sabbath. Even the work on the farm or anywhere was forbidden unless absolutely required. It was regarded as necessary only if it could not have been done the day before or put off to the next day without dire results.

But when Jesus began to teach and to demonstrate The Truth, his approach to the Sabbath was quite different from that of the Jewish leaders. He really was in conflict with their teachings concerning what a person should do on the sabbath.

When Jesus and His disciples were going through the corn fields one Sabbath, His disciples began to pluck the ears of corn and to eat them. On any other day except Sunday, the disciples were doing what was freely permitted. But to pluck corn and to eat it with the hands and to eat it raw was considered work. They broke the rules and were considered as law-breakers. It seems like a petty thing to us, but to the Jews it was a matter of deadly sin and of life and death.

This was just what the defenders of traditional religion wanted Jesus to do. They began to accuse him with everything they had of being a law-breaker.

Jesus excused the disciples by quoting the incident where David and his men took the bread off the altar in the tabernacle because of necessity. This showed that scripture itself supplies a precedent in which human needs took precedence over human and even divine law. "Man is not enslaved by the Sabbath; the Sabbath exists to make his life a better life." This is the purpose God had in mind when He gave a day of worship and rest.

What does the Lord of the Sabbath mean? If Jesus is Lord, then we should catch his spirit and make it a day of Son worship. So that the day of worship is related to Jesus Christ as Lord and placed the emphasis upon a positive life which could be enjoyed based upon worship and rest.

A person does not become a Christian by abstaining from work and pleasure on Sunday or even by attending church on that day. But a person is saved by accepting Jesus as Lord of his whole life. The spirit of Jesus Christ then takes over the life so that love, service and fellowship with God become most important. Jesus did not break the commandment to keep the Sabbath holy. If we would do as he did on the day of worship we would not do wrong. Christianity has always consisted in doing things more than not things.

What did Jesus do on the Sabbath that was right? (1) He followed his custom of worshipping in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Jesus led his

disciples to worship God. Although he might not have agreed with what some were thinking, he still wanted and needed to worship with other people. We do not know when the followers of Jesus moved their day of worship to the "first day" rather than the Sabbath. In the book of Acts they went to the temple and the synagogue. But by Acts 20:7 the first day is clearly seen as the one on which the Christians as Christians assembled for worship. Paul speaks of the first day of the week for the offering to be taken (1 Cor. 16:2). Revelation 1:10 speaks of the "Lord's day." We need always to encourage persons to worship with others on the day of worship.

"But I don't have to be in church to worship. I can worship God at home, or driving down the highway, or playing on the golf course." Perhaps, but listen to what a little girl said to her father. He was taking the family on a Sunday outing and had said they could pray at the lake: "We could, Daddy, but we won't, will we?"

(2) The first claim on any man is the claim of human need. If ever the performance of a man's religion stops him from helping someone in need, his religion is not religion at all. People matter far more than programs.

Persons are more important than sermons. The best way to worship God is to help men. But we need to be prepared to help men and we do this by worship, training, and fellowship. Too many people are trying to meet men's needs who do not have the power of God because they have poorly prepared. Therefore, many people are left worse off, rather than being helped.

(3) The best way to use sacred things such as the Sabbath is to use them to help men. The only way to get anything out of this world into heaven is to invest it in men. Things are sacred only when God has blessed their use. The Bible is sacred only when God speaks to a heart through the written word. The church is sacred, when it is set apart for God's use. Too many people have set aside things as sacred because of their value in man's mind, and in God's thought.

Do you think the Sabbath is sacred? In our secular world it is just another work day or a pleasure day. But when Jesus Christ is Lord, every day can be sacred (a segment of time set apart for God's use). We need to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord and catch His spirit on that day. Love should be the final arbiter in the use of all things, not law. I look forward to the day of worship with my friends because I need to worship God and



Shelton Hand (left), director of development at Mississippi College, looks over the document setting up the Barbara Beckman Ethridge Nursing Education Fund for the School of Nursing with Mrs. Wayne Nix and Mrs. Ethridge. The loan fund was established by Mrs. Nix of Jackson as an expression of affection for her longtime friend. (C. Photo by Bob Rampy)

Nursing Education Fund Set Up At MC

A new nursing education fund has been established at Mississippi College to assist students in the School of Nursing with their finances while attending college.

College officials have announced that the Barbara Beckmann Ethridge Nursing Education Fund has been established by Mrs. Wayne (Elaine) Nix of Jackson as an expression of affection for her longtime friend.

"Friendship for Barbara Ethridge and love for the profession of nursing which I have enjoyed personally and for the profession of medicine which has so richly blessed the life of her husband, Dr. H. C. Ethridge, is the reason I have established this special fund," said Mrs. Nix.

The fund shall be a student loan fund for nursing students enrolled in the School of Nursing, with preference given to senior students with good academic records.

According to the stipulations in the fund, loans shall be made from the principal and income of the fund, and all loans shall be paid back into and become a part of the fund in future years.

The loans will be at a low interest rate and no interest shall accrue on the loans as long as the student receiving the loan remains in good standing in the nursing program at the college.

Repayment of the loan shall begin

find encouragement from other people.

The Lord's day is different because of its purpose in my mind and heart. It is set apart for more than family outings. It is a day when Christians can collectively do what we cannot do by ourselves. The more we emphasize the positive aspects of the Christian life on Sunday the greater will be our witness.

Kate Durham Morgan Asks:

Had You Thought About This?

Without FAITH it is impossible to please God. In 1974 we do want to PLEASE God. The Latin word for faithfulness is FIDELIS. Many Sunday School Classes adopt this word as the name for their class. Even if you do not belong to a class that bears that name, YOU AS A CHRISTIAN want to be FAITHFUL in the coming YEAR of 1974. Read this recipe for FAITHFULNESS often during the year to keep you reminded.

MORE IN 1974

Fellowship as children of God.

Faithfulness to Bible study and prayer.

Faith in God as one who KNOWS US and LOVES US

MORE

Initiative to assume places of duty for the Lord's work.

Illustrating what God has DONE in our lives by our ACTIONS.

Intending at ALL times to DO God's WILL.

MORE

Dependable even in the SMALLEST task.

Devoted to each other, our church, our God.

Demonstrating what God means to ME.

MORE

Enthusiastically going about the Lord's work.

Enjoyment of work WELL done.

Evaluating each and selecting the BEST.

MORE

Loving God with our WHOLE being.

Learning HOW to LOVE our neighbors.

Listening to those that NEED US.

MORE

Involvement for CHRIST.

Influence for the WHOLESMILE of life.

Intrigued by the POWER of God.

SMILES for all.

SYMPATHY, in times of sorrow, for others.

SUPPORT to the WEAK, physically and spiritually.

Want to perform the customary act before the meal, and no one of the disciples volunteered for the menial task. In Jesus' act there was the dignity of humility and the royalty of service. He felt no condescension or humiliation in bathing tired and dusty feet.

EXAMPLE FOR CHRISTIANS (vv. 12-14)

Having finished an acted parable, Jesus resumed his role as the Teacher. He probed the hearts of the disciples to see if they had understood what he had done. He was trying to teach them the emptiness and vanity of greatness in terms of position or status and the primary of greatness

in terms of one's quality of character and helpfulness to other persons. They called Jesus Master and Lord, and he was indeed such in the fullest sense. But he had suffered no loss of dignity or sovereignty in performing a menial task. Jesus had acted a truth in a natural situation of need to teach the principle that Christians must serve one another, and serve other persons in the name of Christ. He taught in an

unforgettable picture, not to establish an ordinance but that Christians might strive to emulate his spirit and practice.

THE NEW COMMANDMENT (vv. 34-35)

Now that Judas had gone out to accomplish his betrayal, and with the time of the crucifixion only hours away, Jesus gave to the disciples a new commandment. It was a charge to love one another as he had loved them. It was new in the sense that it would have new meaning through the supreme manifestation of his self-sacrifice on the cross. The commandment was new in the sense that its practice would be measured by a higher standard. He had loved them to the utmost. His self-sacrifice would be in their stead and for the atonement for mankind. The commandment was new in the sense that it would forever be the ultimate criterion of ethical obligation and of goodness on earth. The practice of Christian love would be the supreme witness to the gospel and climactic expression of fellowship in Christ. Finally, this commandment was new in the sense that Christ would come in his Spirit to dwell in his followers, to interpret in their minds the meaning of Christian love, and to empower and motivate the practice of Christian love under his lordship.

Handbell "Share" Seminars" Set

For January 31

Three handbell share seminars are set for Thursday night, January 31, at 7 p.m. in three different areas of Mississippi. These seminars, sponsored by the Church Music Department; MBCB, are being held for the purpose of discussing methods and materials for churches with or without handbells.

These particular seminars are for directors and assistants only. And directors may choose those seminars which are scheduled in their area.

A retreat for handbell ringers will be held at a later date.

All three of the share seminars are scheduled for January 31, at 7 p.m. in the following locations and with the following clinicians:

First Church, Clinton: Mrs. Bill Baker and Mrs. T. J. H. Anderson, clinicians; Main Street Church, Hattiesburg: Bob Jones and Jimmy Cutrell, clinicians; First Church, Greenwood; Perry Robinson and Alvyn Moore, clinicians.

Fulton Pastor

Moves To Alabama

Rev. Fred Chancellor of Fulton has moved to Thomasville, Alabama. Mr. Chancellor served as pastor of First Church, Fulton for five years. He assumed the pastoral duties of Thomasville Church in late December, 1973.

Mr. Chancellor is a graduate of William Carey College and also holds a Th.M. Degree from New Orleans Seminary.

He is married to the former Carol Martin of Heidelberg, and they have three children, Bill, Sharon, and Kristina.

On their last Sunday in Fulton, the Chancellors joined the Fulton Church in dedication services in honor of the newly renovated church sanctuary.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Clinton.

Rev. Leon Ivey is now pastor of Valley Park Church at Valley Park in Sharkey - Issaquena Association.

He and his wife, Mrs. Sara Elizabeth Ivey, moved there November 15 from Louisiana.

Rev. Leon Young is superintendent of missions.

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Mrs. Iva Jackson,
MC Professor,
Dies At 63

Mrs. Iva Ball Jackson, Mississippi College professor, and resident of Clinton, died January 5 at University Hospital, Jackson.

The funeral was Jan. 7 at Unity Church near Leakesville.

Survivors are: three sisters, Mrs. Melvin Turner of Leakesville, Mrs. Elgin Turner of Richton, and Mrs. Woodie Moffett of Titusville, N. H.; and three brothers, Paul L. Ball of Krum, Tenn., and Alex D. Ball of Marvern, Ark.

Mrs. Jackson was born January 19, 1911, in Leakesville. She received her B. S. degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and her Master of Business Education degree from the University of Mississippi. She taught in the Macon High School for several years and in 1954 joined the faculty of Mississippi College as associate Professor of business Education.

She was listed in Who's Who in Colleges and Universities; was named an outstanding educator of America in 1971; and in 1973 received the award for Most Outstanding Senior College teacher of business given by the Mississippi Business Education Association.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Clinton.

Valley Park Has New Pastor

Rev. Leon Ivey is now pastor of Valley Park Church at Valley Park in Sharkey - Issaquena Association.

He and his wife, Mrs. Sara Elizabeth Ivey, moved there November 15

Names In The News

Roger M. Bostick, Jr., was licensed to preach on November 23, by the Benoit Church. He is presently preaching in his home church on the second Sunday evening each month. He is also being used — along with many other dedicated laymen and lay-women — in the Bolivar Mission, sponsored by the Benoit Union Church. Mr. Bostick has been a resident of Benoit for 15 years.

years, during which time he has been employed by Bostick Brothers, Incorporated. Born in Memphis, he is a graduate of Georgia Tech, where he majored in engineering. While in Atlanta, he met and married the former Rita Poe, native of that city. The Bosticks' are parents of two daughters, Terry and Leigh. Terry is a student of pharmacy at Ole Miss. Leigh is a missions volunteer, and a student at Mississippi College. Mrs. Bostick teaches at Bayou Academy in Skene. Mr. Bostick plans to enter Midwestern Seminary in September. Rev. Glenn H. Byrd is pastor at Benoit.

Larry Cox has accepted the call of First Church, Vicksburg, as minister of education. Mr. Cox began his work December 9 after resigning as minister of youth-education of First Church, St. Petersburg, Fla. A native of Greenwood, Miss., he is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. He has led conferences at Ridgecrest and Glorieta. Specializing in youth leadership, he has led clinics and workshops for the Florida Baptist Convention and has also written for Church Training Magazine and Church Recreation Magazine. Dr. John G. McCall is pastor of First, Vicksburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy H. Marlowe, missionaries to Togo, may be addressed at Villa Plein Soleil, Ch. des Condemnes 28, 1028 Priverenges, Lausanne, Switzerland, for language study. Before their appointment in 1973, he was pastor of Philadelphia Church, Wesson, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell A. Herington, missionaries to Costa Rica, have completed orientation and may be addressed at Apartado 10240, San Jose, Costa Rica, for language study. He is a native of Mississippi.

Dr. Clarence L. Stanford, pictured, was recognized recently at the annual meeting of the Baptist Memorial Hospital (Memphis) Board of Trustees as a new member of the Board. Dr. Stanford was elected to a 3-year term by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. He is a dentist practicing in Ripley, Mississippi. Baptist Memorial Hospital was established in 1912 and is owned

by the Baptist Conventions of Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee. With 1,750 beds and over 60,000 admissions annually, it is the nation's largest private general hospital and is the largest single asset of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Rev. C. I. Miller has resigned the pastorate of Unity Church, Jackson County, where he has served for more than ten years. He has accepted the pastorate of the Woodhaven Mission in Ocean Springs, and has moved to the new field.

Many Pastors Said Needing Better Insurance Coverage

Dallas — Thousands of pastors and other church workers in the Southern Baptist Convention are not insured or lack adequate insurance coverage, officials of the SBC Annuity Board here reported.

The Annuity Board announced it has launched an effort to enrol these pastors and full-time church workers in its "Designed Insurance Protection."

"We are convinced pastors and church staff members need and want adequate protection. Our program with Aetna Life Insurance will meet their needs," said Gene P. Daniel, the board's vice president for insurance services.

He said the "Designed Insurance Protection" will offer (1) life insurance with accidental death and dismemberment benefits, and (2) pay-check protection during disability, and (3) medical insurance.

The insured's spouse and unmarried dependent children also are protected under life and medical plans, Daniel continued.

"The Annuity Board believes this to be high quality protection under the best of many programs available," he said. "It is underwritten by Aetna, one of the country's largest and most respected life insurance companies."

Additional information on advantages of this insurance program may be secured from W. R. Roberts, annuity field representative for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, with offices at Box 520, Jackson, Mississippi 38205.

Walnut Grove Gives Over \$1700 To Lottie Moon

Walnut Grove Church in Leake County Association has gone over their Lottie Moon Offering goal by \$272.50. They set a \$1500 goal for the 1973 foreign mission offering, and to date total gifts to the special offering have amounted to \$1722.50. This amount equals 14% of the annual church budget!

Thomas Starling is chairman of deacons; Mrs. J. W. Madden is director of WMU; Rev. J. H. Street is the interim pastor.

Doctor To Show Slides Of Africa At Wahalak Church

Dr. William M. Hillbun, pediatrician from Meridian, will be guest speaker at Wahalak Church, Kemper County, next Sunday evening, January 20, at 7 o'clock.

Dr. Hillbun has served for a year as medical missionary in Ogbomosho, Nigeria, West Africa. He will show slides of his work there during the evening's program at Wahalak.

Rev. Ronnie W. Bullard of Newton is the Wahalak pastor.

Gold was discovered on Aug. 6, 1896 at Bonanza Creek in Yukon Territory, northwest Canada.

Hawaii was proclaimed fiftieth state of the Union on Aug. 21, 1959.

Ferdinand Magellan, a Portuguese sailing for Spain, began an attempt to circumnavigate the globe in September, 1519. He was killed in the Philippines, but one ship reached Spain.

Devotional

For The Building Up Of The Body Of Christ

By Kermit S. King, director
Church Training Department, MBCB
Ephesians 4:11-12

Ray C. Stedman in the preface to his book *Body Life* writes, "Whenever a church is ready to take Ephesians 4, I Corinthians 12, and Romans 12 seriously, the Lord of the Church is ready to heal and to bless. The essential need then is that we should rediscover the biblical pattern. As one modern sign puts it—when all else fails, follow directions!"

These passages deal with the church and stress the basic unity of the church in terms of a body. The individual members of the body must recognize their importance, accept their place, rely upon the indwelling Holy Spirit for their power, and express through their lives what is the will of Christ, the mind of Christ, the purpose of Christ. How else can Christ be perceived in today's world unless his body, the church, becomes more than a witness—becomes the evidence of his presence and his power.

To that end Paul calls some to acknowledge and accept the God-given gift of being pastor-teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry.

Few of us like this concept. The drill instructors are not the ones who get the medals. The teachers are not the men who get the Nobel awards; or become presidents of corporations; or perform in Carnegie Hall. The work of the body is the function of the members of the body. In a church setting this means that the work of Christ is to be done by the members of the body of Christ. Findley Edge says that if the work of Christ, the work of ministry, is not being done in any community it is the laymen who are at fault. However, he adds, if the laymen do not know how to do the work of Christ, if they are not equipped for the exercise of their gift, then the pastor-teacher is at fault.

With 1974 being designated in Mississippi Baptist life as a year of emphasis on "Church Member Development," let this be a plea that pastors with the elected church leaders meet together to consider seriously the extent to which the members of that church are being trained in knowledge, skills, and attitudes to use their gifts to express the life purpose of the body of Christ in the world in which they live. Any group meeting together with such a purpose will surely know the leadership of the Spirit in discovering ways of providing for the developmental needs of the members. The personnel of the various departments in the Baptist Building are an available resource to any pastor or church both in planning and implementation.

Rising Costs Force Cutback For World Evangelism Meeting

LUSANNE, Switzerland (BP)—Baptists and others planning to attend the International Congress on World Evangelism, scheduled here July 16-25, 1974, have been advised that increasing costs have forced a reduction in the number of participants for the interdenominational meeting of evangelicals.

A decision to reduce the size of the meeting from 3,000 to 2,700 participants was made at a meeting of the congress administrative committee here.

Bishop A. Jack Dain of Sydney, executive chairman, announced the reduction in planned registrants and that the administrative committee session was held at a time of mounting world crisis.

The world's crises convinced members even more of the urgent need for the congress in spite of the forced cutback in participation, Bishop Dain said.

The committee, including laymen and clergymen from around the world, was faced specifically with increases in airline fares, among other cost increases. Panel members noted that the buying power of several currencies pledged in support of the congress have declined seriously since initial budgets were approved in 1972.

Bishop Dain said the number of participants will still be more than twice the size of the 1966 World Congress on Evangelism in Berlin, at which 1,200 persons registered. The 1974 meeting will be much more representative of international evangelical leadership, he said.

Participants for the congress are being selected on a quota system that takes into account all types of ministries, age, sex and lay or clergy status.

Verona Calls Pastor

Verona Church has called as pastor Rev. Ray Glover, previously pastor in Jacksonville, Florida, Native of Wheeler, Mississippi. Mr. Glover is married to the former Helen Shouse of Marietta. They have two children, Lanny Ray, an engineering student at MSU, and Lynn, a junior in high school.

Rev. Bradley Pope, B. S. U. director at Miss. College, was interim pastor until the arrival of the new pastor. Ray, Helen and Lynn reside at 208 College Street, Verona.

Southwestern Maps Plans, Institutes Ph.D. Program

FORT WORTH, Tex. (BP)—The board of trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has authorized appointment of a long-range planning commission to set objectives and goals in all phases of seminary life, including a revised master campus plan.

In their annual fall meeting, the trustees also voted to change the name of the seminary's doctor of theology (Th.D.) degree to the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) degree.

The long-range planning commission will consist of representatives of trustees, the seminary's advisory council, faculty, administration, alumni and students.

The new group will bring together all previous long-range planning activities with new additions and will set 5, 10 and 15-year objectives and goals.

The new Ph.D. degree, to be offered beginning next fall, will provide training in academic research, primarily for the preparation of teachers but focused also on editors, writers, denominational executives, scholarly pastors and other specialized vocations.

As Mr. Les sat in his rocking chair, Carlton Donahoe, chairman of deacons, paid tribute to Mr. Les, followed by Lawson Jenkins, his Sunday school teacher for approximately 28 years; J. T. Squires, who had served on the board of deacons with him the longest, and Bobby Kirk, who had worked with him in other capacities. Each expressed appreciation to Mr. Les for his contributions to their lives personally and to the Roundaway Church.

Rev. Howard Quinley, pastor, gave opportunity for others present to make expressions concerning Mr. Les and their relationship with him.

Following the benediction, the church had a birthday dinner in the fellowship hall.

At Pittsboro Church the Little Moon Christmas Offering goal was set at \$1000 but when the final count of the money was made, the people had given \$1366.12. This was more than double last year's contribution.

Rev. Lyndle Davis is the pastor.

First Church, Florence recently held a note-buying ceremony, celebrating clearing of the last indebtedness on their educational building. Left to right: Chairman of Trustees, Dr. E. L. Whitfield, Trustees, T. L. Thorrell and M. A. Courtney, and Rev. M. R. Bradley, pastor. (Vaughn Alliston, Trustee, not pictured)

Officials Threaten Zealous Christians

SOGAMOSO, Colombia — Christians in the little rural village of Socota, who feared they would be jailed because of their evangelistic efforts, were recently encouraged when they heard a Baptist radio program about religious freedom in Colombia.

After the mayor and a priest in Socota had announced that anyone distributing evangelical literature would be subject to arrest and 30 days in jail, Alirio Betancourt, pastor of First Baptist Church here, used one of the daily 30-minute radio programs produced by his church to discuss religious liberty.

Citizens in Socota listening to the broadcast learned there was an article in the Colombian constitution that guaranteed liberty of conscience and freedom to worship as one chooses.

Betancourt quoted from the 1948 United Nations International Declaration of Human Rights, cited names of two well-known Colombian leaders who had signed the document and read from the penal code which said that acts of physical or moral violence to prevent worship according to the dictates of one's conscience were punishable by one to three months in jail and a fine of \$10 to \$200 pesos.

He continued by saying that if the party responsible for such violation of civil rights is a public official, the fine or punishment is increased by one-half.

When Baptists began distributing tracts on their next trip, no action was taken, even though the mayor was watching them from the window of his office.

"An egotist is a person whose I's are too close together." — Dale Holdridge, The Langford (S. Dak.) Bugle.

BWA Leaders Note Growth Among Romanian Baptists

WASHINGTON (BP)—Evidence of consistent growth throughout the Baptist churches in Romania was noted by two Baptist World Alliance (BWA) leaders who returned from there recently following a visit to the Romanian government's Department of Cults in Bucharest.

C. Ronald Goulding, BWA associate secretary in London, and David Russell, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, made the trip to discuss various matters affecting the relationship between the state of Romania and Baptist churches there.

Russell, a member of the BWA executive committee, and Goulding went to Romania in response to reports of church-state problems in that country.

Goulding, while not naming specific problems, said he and Russell were received by the chairman and vice chairman of the Romanian government's Department of Cults for a three-hour "full and frank" discussion of questions raised in a recently produced paper by Joseph Ton on the relationship between the Baptist churches and the state. Ton is the pastor of three Baptist churches in the industrial town of Ploesti, about 40 miles from Bucharest.

"Some of the problems raised have already been resolved, and others are due for consideration," Goulding said.

About 130,000 Baptists live in Romania, the third largest Baptist population (exceeded by the Soviet Union and Great Britain) among the European countries, according to Goulding.

Off The Record

I'm Fine

(A Good Attitude for 1974)
There is nothing whatever the matter with me;

I am just as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees.
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin.

But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My teeth eventually have to come out
And my diet—I hate to think about it!
I am over weight and I can't get thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

I think my liver is out of whack,
And a terrible pain is in my back,
My hearing is poor, my sight is dim;
Most everything seems to be out of trim.

But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

I have arch supports for both of my feet.

Or I wouldn't be able to go on the street,
Sleepiness I have, night after night,
And in the morning I'm just a sight,
My memory's failing, my head's in a spin.

I'm practically living on aspirin.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is, as this tale we unfold,
That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin.

Than to let them know the shape we're in.

—Author Unknown
Reminder, FBC, Dallas

Intuition is what a woman uses to arrive at some right or wrong answer without thinking about it.

Alimony: Marital Sir Charge.

Jail Cell: Guardin' Apartment.

Teenage Marriage: Supportin' Proposition.

Baker's Helper: Friend in Knead.

Work Schedule: Wait - Reducing Program.

Day Dream: Two On The Isle.

Wedding Cake: Bridal Sweet.

Inheritance: Heir Lift.

Prediction: Whither Forecast.

Female Cab Driver: My Fare Lady.